

STARS AND STRIPES.®

Volume 73, No. 189

© SS 2015

MIDEAST EDITION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2015

stripes.com

Free to Deployed Areas

Inside

AFGHANISTAN

NATO general says US casualties 'unavoidable' as Afghan mission shifts

Page 2



MILITARY

Base supermarkets in Europe, Pacific hit with critical food shortages

Page 3

FACES

Anything is possible for Golden Globes' dark horse nominees

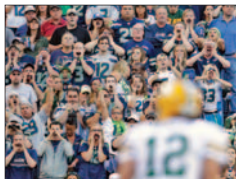
Page 18



NFL PLAYOFFS

For this weekend's host teams, there's no place like home

Back page



CHANGES COMING TO EUROPE



Mildenhall to close and Lakenheath to make way for F-35s as many installations face realignment » Page 6

France mourns amid hunt for terrorist suspects

The Associated Press

PARIS — Scattered gunfire and explosions shook France on Thursday as its frightened yet defiant citizens held a day of mourning for 12 people slain at a Paris newspaper. French police hunted two heavily armed brothers suspected in the massacre, fearing they might strike again.

The two suspects — one who had a prior terrorism conviction — should be considered "armed and dangerous," French police said in a bulletin.

French President Francois

Hollande — joined by residents, tourists and Muslim leaders — called for tolerance after the country's worst terrorist attack in decades. At noon, the Paris metro came to a standstill and a crowd fell silent near Notre Dame cathedral to honor Wednesday's victims.

"France has been struck directly in the heart of its capital, in a place where the spirit of liberty — and thus of resistance — breathed freely," Hollande said.

SEE MOURN ON PAGE 10



CLAUDE PARIS/AP

People hold "I am Charlie" signs in Marseille, France, during a day of mourning for those slain at the Charlie Hebdo offices.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"He is tied in so he can't run off, but he'll stand up if he smells something interesting."

— Ian Roper, who takes his 135-pound bullmastiff, Bruce, on rides in his motorcycle's sidecar

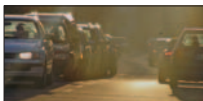
See story on Page 15

TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. RAF Mildenhall to close amid other Europe consolidations
2. Overseas commissaries hit with critical food shortages
3. Emails: Michigan county VA director sought cash, gifts from veterans
4. Scrawl found on United jet, attendants fired when they refuse to fly
5. AFN murder trial set to start Monday

COMING SOON



Shifting gears

Millennials drive a sea change, use cars only when they have to

TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup	19
Business	20
Comics	21
Crossword	21
Faces	21
Faith	18
Opinion	22-23
Sports	24-32
Weather	20
Wired World	14

MILITARY



Afghan forces inspect the site of a roadside bomb explosion Monday in Jalalabad, east of Kabul, Afghanistan. A roadside bomb hit a NATO convoy, damaging one vehicle but inflicting no casualties.

Breedlove: Expect more US casualties in Afghanistan

By CARLO MUNOZ
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Americans must be prepared for more U.S. casualties in Afghanistan even after the declared end to NATO's combat mission in the country, the alliance's supreme commander warned Thursday.

"All of us as commanders have reminded our senior leadership ... the war in Afghanistan has not ended, (just) the combat mission for NATO," Gen. Philip Breedlove told Stars and Stripes.

"It's hard to say, but we are going to continue to have (American) casualties" in Afghanistan, Breedlove said in an interview at Bagram Air Field.

"It is going to be unavoidable," he added.

Breedlove's comments came just days after American and allied forces officially closed the book on the 13-year International Security Assistance Force mission in Afghanistan, shifting to a lower-key, advisory role supporting, named Resolute Support.

At the time, the White House and top U.S. commanders in Afghanistan heralded the transition

as crucial milestone in ending America's longest war. The move represented "an end of an era and the beginning of a new one" in Afghanistan, ISAF commander Gen. John Campbell said at the command's end-of-mission ceremony in Kabul on Dec. 28.

Under the White House's plan, roughly 11,000 U.S. troops and about 2,000 NATO troops remain on the ground to train and advise Afghanistan's army and police and to conduct counterterrorism operations. The American troop number is slated to drop to 5,500 by the end of this year, with all U.S. forces scheduled to leave Afghanistan by 2016.

After the collapse last summer of Iraq's U.S.-trained army when confronted by a surprise attack by fast-moving Islamist forces, analysts and U.S. lawmakers have warned that a similar scenario could unfold in Afghanistan if international troops pulled out too precipitously, leaving the government forces to fend for themselves.

While American and NATO troops are no longer the main fighting force in Afghanistan, U.S. troops will continue to be in



CARLO MUNOZ/Stars and Stripes

Gen. Philip Breedlove, NATO's top military commander, speaks Thursday in Kabul, Afghanistan.

the line of fire on a regular basis during the follow-on mission, Maj. Gen. John Murray, deputy commander general for U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, said Tuesday.

"We are not going out on kill/capture missions anymore, (but) this is still a very dangerous place," Murray said in an interview at the command's headquarters at Bagram. "There are going to be some hard questions when we lose (the first) soldier" under Resolute Support.

Despite those risks, American troops in postwar Afghanistan "can't just sit on the FOB" and completely disengage from the security threats facing Afghan forces, Murray said, referring to the 23 remaining U.S. forward operating bases scattered across Afghanistan.

The upcoming fighting season, the first under Resolute Support, will be American commanders' "last good year to have an impact" on Afghanistan's postwar future.

With so much at stake, top U.S. commanders have voiced concerns over whether President Barack Obama's plan for Afghanistan will be enough to ensure the country's security beyond 2016.

In November, Campbell, the top U.S. officer in Afghanistan, said he was reviewing whether Afghan forces were ready and whether he should recommend through his chain of command that additional NATO forces stay longer. Earlier this month, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani suggested Washington re-examine its future plans because of a resurgent Taliban and the possible threat from other insurgent groups in the region.

"Are we looking at contingencies? Absolutely," Murray when asked about possible changes to the postwar mission. But "this is not (Operation Enduring Freedom) ... that is part of the mind-set we are going to [have to] get used to," he said.

munoz.carlo@stripes.com

Zero. Zip. Nada.

No Fee Checking

Find out more at any branch, online or by phone 24/7. See servicecu.org for branch locations.

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA | See servicecu.org for details. No transaction or maintenance fees. Some member selected service fees may apply.

LIVE PERSON SERVICE 24/7
00800.4728.2000 • 314.493.4384/4385
SERVICECU.ORG/stripes

ALL U.S. MILITARY
AND DoD CIVILIANS
AND THEIR FAMILIES

SERVICE[®]
CREDIT UNION



MILITARY

Commissaries hit by critical food shortages

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Defense Commissary Agency said Wednesday it is working to fix problems that have led to critical shortages in perishable products at military base supermarkets in the Pacific and Europe.

Union negotiations and computer glitches over the last month have held up shipments of yogurt, lunch meat, butter and fresh bone-in meat, according to the agency. In Europe, a breakdown in the DeCA distribution system prevented about 40 percent of frozen foods from being distributed.

The commissary agency operates 66 overseas stores, with most in the Pacific and Europe. Many base residents serving abroad depend on the on-base facilities for American-style food and a discount compared with grocery stores in host countries.

"Several factors have caused our overseas stores to fall short of what is required to serve our patrons there," DeCA Director and CEO Joseph H. Jeu said in a statement.

The agency is "doing everything possible," including reordering products, searching for additional local sources for the

food and considering alternative shipping methods, Jeu said.

Union negotiations on the West Coast between dock workers and the Pacific Maritime Association have held up cargo and delayed food shipments to commissaries in mainland Japan, Okinawa, Guam, South Korea and Hawaii, according to the DeCA. The groups are yet to strike a labor contract since last summer but a mediator has been called in.

"In some instances commissary patrons experienced critical shortages in perishable products such as chilled juices, produce and dairy products," the DeCA

said in a press release.

The DeCA said it is trying to work around the ongoing West Coast port delays and commissary personnel are "standing ready to receive incoming shipments immediately upon arrival and stock them to the shelves."

Frozen and dry foods have not been affected by the union disagreement because the DeCA maintains a 30-day supply of those products in its Pacific central distribution centers.

Europe is experiencing shortages of both unfrozen perishable and frozen foods.

Sea containers headed for com-

missaries could not clear customs due to a computer failure and deliveries of unfrozen, perishable groceries were delayed during the week before Christmas, the DeCA said.

Then an additional breakdown of the agency's distribution system affected about 40 percent of the frozen food kept at its cold storage plant in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

The DeCA said it expects to improve its grocery selections in Europe by Jan. 14, depending on the location.

tritten.travis@stripes.com
Twitter: @Travis_Tritten

100 soldiers from Joint Base Lewis-McChord to deploy to Iraq this month

By JENNIFER HLADE

Stars and Stripes

SAN DIEGO — About 100 soldiers stationed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington will deploy to Iraq later this month, the Army announced Wednesday.

The soldiers of 51st Signal Battalion (Expeditionary), 35th Signal Brigade (Tactical), will provide communication support for the combined joint task force there as part of Operation Inherent Resolve. The deployment is expected to last about nine months.

They'll join more than 2,100 other American servicemembers already serving in Iraq and will support the U.S. Central Command mission against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.

About 1,000 paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division's 3rd Combat Team will deploy from Fort Bragg, N.C., around the same time and also expect

a nine-month deployment.

"Leaders in the 51st ESB understand that soldiers are our greatest asset, and as a result, we go to great lengths to ensure our soldiers can deploy to austere environments, survive and sustain themselves on the battlefield, and provide world-class communications support to war-fighting units," Lt. Col. John W. Meek, the battalion's commander, said in a written statement.

The signal battalion last deployed to Afghanistan from 2011 to 2012, and had planned to deploy to West Africa to help fight Ebola.

"The soldiers of the 51st ESB continually impress me with their commitment to accomplishing any mission," Meek said. "They have built a superb reputation with units around the Army for providing world-class signal support."

hlade.jennifer@stripes.com
Twitter: @jhlade



BRET COTE/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Weather thwarts black box recovery

Naval aircrewman 2nd Class Cody Witherspoon helps in the search for missing AirAsia Flight 8501 in the Java Sea on Tuesday. Strong currents and blinding silt thwarted divers' attempt on Thursday to find the jet's black boxes, which are believed to still be in the recently discovered tail of the plane that crashed Dec. 28. Teams from Indonesia and France were looking at other options, including a crane to lift the tail. Three more bodies recovered Thursday raised the total to 43.

Medical technician gets 30 months in prison for patient sex assault

San Antonio Express-News

An Air Force medical technician was given 2½ years in prison and a dishonorable discharge Wednesday after being convicted of sexually assaulting a patient as she was coming out of anesthesia.

The sentence Airman 1st Class Michael Lightsey received was close to the maximum three years and dishonorable discharge sought by prosecutors, and will require him to register as a sex offender.

Lightsey was found guilty earlier in the day on two counts of improperly touching the woman after a June 20, 2013, operation at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

It may have been a first. The Air Force wasn't aware of another

incident like it at Wilford Hall.

Taking the stand as the punishment phase of the trial began, the victim, a captain, recounted wrestling with post-traumatic stress disorder before and after follow-up operations in the months following the attack.

That anxiety erupted into outright panic after she arrived home from a surgical procedure that winter and found blood in her underwear, prompting her to fear that she had been raped while unconscious.

"I didn't know what to do. I didn't know if I should tell someone, if they would believe me," a prosecutor, Capt. Zachary West, quoted her as saying. "This has reached out into all (her) life like a virus, and it's not fair."

Sitting with her husband direct-

ly behind Lightsey, she showed little emotion as the judge, Lt. Col. Marvin Tubbs II, handed out the sentence. She declined comment. Lightsey's wife, Marissa, placed one hand over her mouth.

Just months into the job, his first assignment in the Air Force, Lightsey was convicted of reaching under the captain's hospital gown to fondle her breasts and penetrate her. He was found not guilty of another specification in her case, and also was cleared in attacks on two other patients who also had been wheeled out of surgery.

All three women were operated on at Wilford Hall during a three-week span in June 2013. They gave similar accounts, saying that he touched them sexually while they rested on gurneys after

surgical procedures that lasted hours. Two women testified that they wanted to scream but were physically unable to do so.

A prosecutor, Capt. Christopher Porter, likened the scene to a horror film, with Lightsey pretending to remove EKG leads and adjust blankets or IV lines before assaulting the captain. He said all three incidents occurred toward the end of the day, when fewer people were at the facility.

"All the puzzle pieces demonstrate a three-dimensional picture of sexual assault," Porter said, standing next to a gurney that had been brought into the courtroom.

Undergoing the fifth of what would be eight surgeries, the captain said Lightsey touched her breasts in the recovery room

while acting as if he were removing the leads. She also said he penetrated her while rolling her out of the recovery room.

Defense attorney Jeffrey King suggested Lightsey was adjusting a blanket, but she said it wasn't necessary — an issue that briefly became the subject of a contentious back and forth in cross examination. A key element of the defense was that the women were in an anesthesia-induced fog that made it impossible for them to reliably recall what happened. But unlike the other two women, the captain reported the incident before leaving Wilford Hall.

Her report triggered an Air Force investigation and Lightsey was assigned administrative duties with no direct patient contact.

WAR ON TERRORISM

Iraq's sharp divide



HADI MIZBAN/AP

A Shiite flag waves from a destroyed checkpoint Saturday at the entrance of Balad, Iraq, 45 miles north of Baghdad, after Shiite militias helped government forces push back Islamic State militants last week.

Sectarian rifts re-emerge even as Shiite forces help clear Sunni towns of Islamic State militants

BY HAMZA HENDAWI
AND QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
The Associated Press

RAWASHID, Iraq — Sunni residents of this tiny village north of Baghdad are all gone. Their homes now have Shiite graffiti scrawled on the walls. Shiite banners, many emblazoned with images of revered saints, are hoisted on the roofs.

The only people here now are Shiite fighters, who nearly two weeks ago helped Iraqi forces wrest the town from the Islamic State group. Outside one of the homes the fighters have occupied, their leader sat with his men on a recent day, warning themselves by a fire where tea brewed.

He made it clear: They have no intention of allowing the Sunnis back, accusing them of supporting the extremists.

"If we allow the residents of this village to return to their homes, they will do it all over again to us," said Adnan Hassan, 59. The militants used the village to fire mortars at the nearby, mainly Shiite city of Balad — and they still hold villages only a few miles away.

"These are our lands. They were taken away from us centuries ago," he told The Associated Press, pointing to the orchards and lush farmlands surrounding the village's relatively affluent homes.

Hassan's claim of Shiite ownership of the lands is tenuous at

best. But his comments expose a grim side of Iraq's fight against the Sunni militants of the Islamic State group. The war is being led by Shiite militiamen to change the demographics of Sunni areas in an attempt to solidify Shiite control. The practice appears mostly focused on Sunni areas astride roads leading to important Shiite shrines to the north and south of the capital, Baghdad.

The apparent sectarian cleansing plants the seeds of future conflict — or even an outright civil war that could eventually break up the nation along sectarian and ethnic lines, a fate that a growing number of Iraqis, particularly Sunnis, see as the solution to the nation's bloody turmoil.

Tens of thousands of Iraq's Sunnis fled their home regions over the past year to escape the brutal rule of the Islamic State group. The militants swept over much of the north and west of Iraq, overrunning Sunni-majority regions all the way down to the doorstep of Baghdad.

Shiite-led security forces and militias made up of Shiite volunteers have since driven the militants out of some of those areas. But the Sunni residents have mostly been prevented from returning, on the grounds that the regions are not yet safe. In many cases, they have been unable to return because their homes have been destroyed in the fighting or blown up by militiamen.

Sunnis who stayed put and

'They say they will only allow 'loyal' residents to go back. This is an excuse to change the demographics of the province.'

Raad al-Dahlaki
Sunnii lawmaker in Diyala province

endured Islamic State governance face a worse predicament when Shiite forces recapture their areas. They are accused of helping the militants, often their homes are blown up, and men are jailed or entire families banished, with their properties given to Shiites.

The militiamen appear to be the ones enforcing the demographic change, unsettling the Shiite-led government. The danger is real enough that Shiite Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi has spoken forcefully about the need for national unity. Addressing graduating army cadets Tuesday, he called for residents of liberated areas to be allowed to return to their homes so their suffering ends.

In an unusually bold gesture of reconciliation, he visited the capital's two landmark Sunni and Shiite shrines last Friday.

Iraq's top Shiite cleric, the Iranian-born Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, condemned the excesses of militiamen in a fatwa, or an edict, issued last weekend specifically citing the theft of prop-

erty in areas liberated from the Islamic State group.

"What we are dealing with here is a real attempt at demographic change, coupled with blatant abuses," Sunni politician Hamed al-Mutlaq told the AP. "It is now extremely difficult for the Sunnis to return to their homes" — not because their homes have been destroyed, he added. "It is genuine fear that is stopping them."

The sectarian shift comes on top of one that occurred in the wave of vicious sectarian fighting sparked in 2006, when Sunni militants blew up the Shiite shrine of Imam al-Askari in the city of Samarra, north of Baghdad. That conflict became a virtual civil war and purged Baghdad of most mixed neighborhoods, leaving it sharply divided between Shiite and Sunni districts.

In Diyala province, northeast of the capital, Islamic State militants have almost completely been driven out, but Sunni Arab families have not been allowed back, said Raad al-Dahlaki, a Sunni lawmaker from the province. The

province is a major route for Iranian pilgrims traveling overland to shrines in Iraq.

"They say they will only allow 'loyal' residents to go back," al-Dahlaki said. "This is an excuse to change the demographics of the province."

Al-Mutlaq and other Sunni politicians said the area around Balad, about 40 miles north of Baghdad, is also targeted to keep out Sunnis.

Balad is home to the shrine of one of the imams revered by Shiites and sits on the main highway from Baghdad to Samarra. While many of the larger towns in the area have Shiite majorities, the surrounding countryside along the Tigris River is dotted with Sunni towns and villages like Rawashid. Over the past weeks, Iraqi forces backed by Shiite volunteer fighters swept across the area, pushing back the extremists and trying to clear a corridor to Samarra.

Iraqi federal police and Shiite volunteers battled for five hours late last month to retake Rawashid. On Saturday, when AP journalists visited, the police were gone, and the volunteers led by Hassan were settled in, taking over several houses.

It is not clear whether the village's estimated 1,000 residents fled when the Islamic State militants took over in the summer or when the village was retaken. Either way, none was in sight Saturday.

At least 23 killed in Iraq suicide attacks

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Suicide attacks targeting security checkpoints and Shiite worshippers killed 23 people in Iraq on Thursday, officials said.

Police said a suicide bomber rammed his explosives-laden car into a police checkpoint in the town of Yusufiyah, just south

of the capital, Baghdad, killing three police and four civilians and wounding another 21 people.

Later on, a suicide bomber driving a pickup loaded with explosives struck a checkpoint manned by police and Shiite militiamen near the city of Samarra, killing eight people and wounding 23 others. Samarra and surrounding areas have repeatedly come under

attack in recent months by the Islamic State group.

After noon prayers, a suicide bomber set off his explosives belt among Shiite worshippers who were leaving a mosque in western Baghdad, killing eight worshippers and wounding 16 others.

The Islamic State extremist group and other Sunni radicals consider Shiites to be apostates

deserving of death.

Medical officials confirmed the casualty figures from all attacks. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity.

Iraq sees near-daily bombings and other attacks mainly targeting the Shiite majority and security forces. The attacks are often claimed by the Islamic State group.

Are you in the picture?

Reading Stars and Stripes gives you a better handle on issues that affect your most.

No one covers the bases the way we do.

In print • Online at starsandstripes.com
Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad

STARS & STRIPES

MILITARY

Lawmaker set to triage compensation reforms

By Tom Philpott

As an Army Reserve physician triaging the care of arriving wounded at the combat support hospital on Al Asad Airbase, Iraq, for half of 2008, Joe Heck said he saw "exactly how well joint operations can work."

Where the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force was based, Heck ran the hospital's emergency support section with two other full-time Army doctors as Air Force and Navy physicians rotated in for shorter stints. Nurses and medics took on responsibilities that wouldn't have been allowed in a civilian setting but were necessary in war, Heck said.

Back home, "in any intercity level-one trauma center, it's very easy to pick up the phone, call for reinforcements from other parts of the hospital when you have five or six patients at a time," Heck said. "That wasn't the case at Al Asad." Yet it was "a blended, purple force able to take care of anybody who came through the door."

Now a third-term Republican congressman from Nevada, Heck vows to take the same "practical, nonparochial" approach in tackling two far different, yet still critical, priorities for the military while serving as the new chairman of the House Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee.

One will be to review, perhaps to reshape, and then to shepherd into law long-awaited recommendations of the Military Compensation and Retirement Reform Commission, which is to deliver its report by Feb. 1. Heck hopes reforms can be enacted this year, though most will be aimed at "the 100-meter target" of "the next

MILITARY UPDATE

generation" military.

"I don't think there's going to be any quick, 25-meter fixes to try to address current budgetary constraints," Heck cautioned.

Commission proposals on modernizing retirement, for example, will be for future servicemembers although they will likely have an "opt-in" period for those now serving if they are drawn to new features such as early vesting in an old-age pension after five or 10 years of service.

Heck can't be sure he will support replacing the rigid, 20-year retirement system for the future force until he sees details and projected impacts on retention. But after 13 years of warfare and seeing the toll multiple combat tours can have on individuals, he sees merit in awarding some retirement benefits sooner than warriors can earn them now.

"The fact is we're breaking these folks a lot faster than we used to," Heck said. "We can't think somebody is going to be able to stay in for 20 years now. To me, it's almost unimaginable because of the op tempo, the stresses we have put them under. So the idea that somebody who serves five or 10 or 15 years is able to get a pension, I think, is critically important."

The report can't come soon enough for Heck because of his second priority as chairman — to protect current forces and retirees from more "nickel-and-dime" of pay and benefits

caused by the 2011 Budget Control Act and its sequestration act. The law's automatic spending cuts of \$50 billion per year across Department of Defense accounts are to resume in full Oct. 1.

Without relief from the law, warns Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, force readiness will drop lower than he has seen at any point in his 40-year career. So Dempsey and service chiefs have been urging Congress at least to slow compensation growth so more of those dollars can be shifted toward training and other readiness accounts.

Heck, who was promoted to brigadier general in the Army Reserve in 2013, said that despite tighter budgets, "it is unconscionable to, after the fact, say 'I'm sorry, but we need to balance the budget on your back. So we're not going to meet the promise we made to you for the sacrifices you and your family have made over your term of service.'"

Heck sees two other ways to make the Department of Defense more efficient, including merging Army, Navy and Air Force medical commands into one, and doing likewise with the three military exchange services that separately run their own chains of on-base department stores.

Heck wants to see those kinds of tough actions taken before considering more proposals to cap annual pay raises, to dampen housing allowances or to boost patient out-of-pocket costs under Tricare, the health insurance



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVALS/AP

Rep. Joseph Heck, R-Nev., participates in a ceremonial reenactment swearing-in ceremony Tuesday on Capitol Hill in Washington.

program for military families and retirees.

"I'm not one for asking somebody to make a co-pay when we're still pissing away money in a health care system that is not finely tuned," Heck said.

Individual services and commands will fight "to protect their turfs" in managing base stores or overseeing health care, Heck said. But if the alternative is breaking faith on compensation, then the tough choices must be made, and he will try to lead colleagues to make them.

Also broken and wasting billions of dollars, he said, is the defense procurement system, which can't seem to buy weapons without hefty cost overruns and long delays.

The armed services committees

especially, he said, must move past the "parochial, with everybody concerned about the base or the depot or the unit in their district" and "think more strategically" to what the nation needs.

As budgets tighten, Heck draws a distinction between "direct" compensation — pay, allowances, retirement and health care — and "indirect" benefits to include shopping discounts. Last year, during a hearing on administration plans to cut commissary funding by two-thirds over three years, Heck didn't reject more modest cost-saving ideas, including a doubling of the 5 percent surcharge customers pay at checkout.

Asked about that, Heck said grocery savings are a quality-of-life issue.

"But if push comes to shove and you've got to make a decision somewhere — as much as I would not want to — that's the place where we're going to need to look. The indirect benefits, not direct pay and benefits."

Better still would be to end sequestration. Heck doesn't sound confident it will happen, but it should, he said.

"Any budgetary cut mechanism that takes 50 percent of cuts away from DOD, which is only about 25 percent of the [entire federal] budget, is fraught with problems," Heck said.

More of them are his problems now.

Send comments to Military Update, P.O. Box 23111, Centerville, Va. 20120; email militaryupdate@doj.com or twitter: Tom Philpott@Military_Update.



As a veteran, you can now secure an affordable home loan through a veteran-owned and operated company that partners with veteran nonprofits and carefully selected lenders to offer the best possible rates.

STARS & STRIPES.

VA Loan Center

Get Real Time Pricing on VA Loans

visit stripes.com/valoans today!

Powered by VA Loan Captain

DBA LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR FREE

INCLUDING NON-US CITIZENS

The Law Offices of Barnett & Lerner, P.A. KNOW AND PROTECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

INJURED CIVILIAN WORKERS

If you work for a company under contract with the United States Government outside the U.S., and fall ill or are injured at work, you may be entitled to benefits under the **Defense Base Act**. This law protects all **injured employees, regardless of their citizenship or nationality**. Under law, you may be entitled to select a doctor and you may be entitled to wages if unable or restricted from working.

DON'T BE FOOLED BY FANCY WEBSITES

Before hiring an attorney, check their trial experience at www.oalj.doi.gov. Type "David C. Barnett" or "Barry Lerner" in the "For" box on the top right side of the home page and you will find over 300 rulings after trial. **NO ONE CAN MATCH OUR EXPERIENCE**



HIRE US ON YOUR COMPUTER

www.injuredoverseas.com

You can now hire Barnett & Lerner, P.A. from your computer

Phone: 954.920.7400 US Toll Free: 888.732.7425



EUROPE

Reorganization of forces

Realignment is forcing Mildenhall, 14 other bases in Europe to close

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

STUTT GART, Germany — A major U.S. Air Force base in the United Kingdom and 14 other installations scattered across Europe will close as part of a sweeping reorganization of U.S. forces on the Continent, the Pentagon announced Thursday.

Operations at RAF Mildenhall — home to Air Force special operations forces, air refueling tankers and 3,200 military personnel — will end, and missions carried out there will be moved to other locations, including Germany.

RAF Alconbury and Molesworth, two other facilities in the U.K., also will close as part of a consolidation effort. Most of the missions there will be moved to RAF Croughton.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon plans to station two squadrons of F-35s at RAF Lakenheath by 2020, which

ties remain intact.

"I have been very vocal about force structure in Europe, but let's remember the EIC is about infrastructure," Breedlove told Stars and Stripes while traveling in Afghanistan.

He has been a strong opponent of further reducing forces in Europe given Russia's aggressive posture toward Ukraine and hostile stance toward NATO.

"Remember how big we were [in Europe]... we still have infrastructure we can downsize that saves us money we can spend on readiness and capabilities," Breedlove said.

The EIC review and F-35 basing decisions will result in a decrease of about 2,000 U.S. military and civilian personnel in the U.K. over the next several years, according to the Pentagon. The removal of 3,200 people from Mildenhall will be partially offset by the addition of 1,200 personnel at Lakenheath,

"Remember how big we were [in Europe]... we still have infrastructure we can downsize that saves us money we can spend on readiness and capabilities."

Gen. Philip Breedlove
Commander of U.S. European Command

"In the end, this transformation of our infrastructure will help maximize our military capabilities in Europe and help strengthen our important European partnerships, so that we can best support our NATO allies and partners in the region," Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said in a statement.

The changes will mean a slight reduction in overall force levels, but troop numbers in Europe are expected to hold near the current level of 67,000.

Germany and Italy will gain troops, though it is expected to take several years for all of the Pentagon's basing decisions to be implemented.

The Pentagon expects to save about \$500 million annually from the consolidations. The cost of implementing the closures and consolidations will be roughly \$1.4 billion, according to DOD.

In next, the European Infrastructure Consolidation — under review for more than two years — grew out of the Pentagon's desire to overcome lawmakers' resistance to additional base closures in the U.S. through the Base Closure and Realignment Commission, or BRAC, process by showing a willingness to close facilities in Europe.

U.S. European Command boss Gen. Philip Breedlove, who likened the consolidation to a "European BRAC," emphasized that his command's operational capabili-

ties remain intact. "I have been very vocal about force structure in Europe, but let's remember the EIC is about infrastructure," Breedlove told Stars and Stripes while traveling in Afghanistan.

He has been a strong opponent of further reducing forces in Europe given Russia's aggressive posture toward Ukraine and hostile stance toward NATO. "Remember how big we were [in Europe]... we still have infrastructure we can downsize that saves us money we can spend on readiness and capabilities," Breedlove said.

The EIC review and F-35 basing decisions will result in a decrease of about 2,000 U.S. military and civilian personnel in the U.K. over the next several years, according to the Pentagon. The removal of 3,200 people from Mildenhall will be partially offset by the addition of 1,200 personnel at Lakenheath,

who will support new missions like the arrival of the F-35 fighters, according to the Pentagon.

Overall, 1,200 military and support positions will be eliminated and 6,000 personnel will be relocated in Europe. Up to 1,100 host-nation jobs could be eliminated, according to the Pentagon.

The pending closure of Mildenhall is the first major Air Force base elimination in Europe in years.

Rumors forewarned some airmen at Mildenhall that changes were coming.

Senior Airman Jason Greenley with the 352nd Special Operations Group said he was sad the base was closing and has enjoyed working there. However, he said, his job in maintenance management analysis means he could be reassigned to England in the future. "I can always go to Lakenheath."

In Germany, both Ramstein and Spangdahlem air bases will gain personnel and aircraft.

Ramstein, already host to one of the busiest airfields in the U.S. Air Force, will take on the air-to-air refueling mission, with plans to move 15 KC-135 Stratotankers and about 700 personnel from the 100th Air Refueling Wing at Mildenhall, said Maj. Mike Andrews, a spokesman for U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa.

SEE CLOSE ON PAGE 7



Planned changes in Europe

United Kingdom

Divest RAF Mildenhall:

- Returns the installation and four supported sites to the United Kingdom.
- DOD intends to relocate the operational units at RAF Mildenhall within Europe — the assigned KC-135s and the 352nd Special Operations Group to Germany and the assigned RC-135s within the U.K. This paves the way for the stationing of two squadrons of F-35s at RAF Lakenheath, starting in 2020.

Divest RAF Alconbury/RAF Molesworth:

- Consolidation of missions allows the permanent return of RAF Alconbury, RAF Molesworth and supporting sites to the United Kingdom. The majority of U.S. personnel, and many of the U.S.-funded host nation positions assigned to these bases will be transferred to RAF Croughton, and personnel moves only.

Germany

- Close Mainz-Kastel Station — fully returns the site to Germany.
- Close Barton Barracks — fully returns the site to Germany and relocates the Department of Defense Dependents Schools Bavaria district office to Grafenwöhr.
- Partially close Pulaski Barracks in the Kaiserslautern area — returns part of the site to Germany.
- Close Weierhof warehouse site — returns the site to German control.
- Close two Baumholder waterworks — returns control to Germany.
- Relocate Headquarters Defense Information Systems Agency-Europe from Stuttgart to Kaiserslautern.
- Close Amelia Earhart Hotel in Wiesbaden.
- Partially close Artillery Kaserne in Garmisch — returns two-thirds of the site to Germany.
- Close Hünshelm Kaserne in Pirmasens — returns the site to Germany.
- Relocate mail sorting/distribution from German Aerial Mail Terminal in Frankfurt to Garmisch Army Depot — efficiencies

- Create a distribution center of excellence at Garmisch Army Depot.
- Consolidate various communication data centers across EUCCOM.
- Close commissaries at Illesheim and Sembach, as well as the four commissaries in Stuttgart at Kelley Barracks, Patch Barracks, Panzer Barracks and Robinson Barracks, once a new replacement store on Panzer is constructed.
- Consolidate Defense Media Activity operations across Europe.
- Consolidate communications, postal services and personnel management that support the U.S. mission to NATO and the U.S. military delegation to the NATO military committee.

Belgium

- Divest leased site in Brussels — Consolidation of U.S. facilities in Brussels to Stereheck.

The Netherlands

- Divest Schinnen Emma Mine leased site, Netherlands and consolidate U.S. facilities at Brunssum.

Italy

- Place a portion of the Pisa Ammo Storage Area, near Livorno, into caretaker status.
- Partially close Camp Darby near Livorno. Returns about half of the installation to Italy.
- Convert the Vicenza Health Center to outpatient and specialty care only.

Portugal

- Streamline operations and property at Lajes Field — Reduces active duty, civilian personnel and contract providers by two-thirds. A number of the buildings at Lajes will also be returned to Portugal.

SOURCE: Department of Defense

Experienced Defense Base Act Lawyers
Gillis, Mermell & Pacheco, P.A.

- Injured in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria or Kuwait?
- We specialize in representing injured workers covered by the Defense Base Act.
- You may be entitled to medical care and a large cash settlement.
- You do not have to be a United States citizen.
- We have obtained over \$125,000,000 in benefits for our clients.

Contact us today by e-mail at mail@gmcpcomlaw.com, by phone at 1-305-595-3350, or by fax at 1-305-595-6966
Visit our website at www.dbalawyers.com



Say what?

A sample of reader comments from stripes.com



Changes on the horizon in Europe

Operations at RAF Mildenhall — home to Air Force special operations forces, air refueling tankers and 3,200 military personnel — will end and missions there will be moved to other locations, such as Germany. It's part of a sweeping reorganization of forces in Europe, announced by the Pentagon, that will include closure of 14 other installations as well.

Readers respond:

To have the forces pull out will have an awful impact on the town and other surrounding areas.

— Marc Newitt

To be closing these installations all over Europe, in light of Mr. Putin & his shenanigans, is ill advised, short sighted ...

— tiredofpc

It should have been closed down in 1995 at the end of the Cold war.

— Richard Dickson

Another budget decision that will come back to haunt them.

— Cotton L Hill

Makes sense from an economic and strategic viewpoint.

— Scott Jessen

I joined the AF to see the world and basically all I ever saw was the desert.

— Andrea Rawlings Walton

Moldyhole, you will be missed.

— Bryan Tappen

Never got to go to those locations though I heard so much about them. I felt like they were homes we just hadn't visited yet.

— Gina-Marie Morris

End of an era

— Bob McGovern

Join the fray at:
stripes.com/go/consolidation

Read
STARS AND STRIPES
online at
stripes.com

MILITARY

AF may offer bonus pay to attract drone pilots

By JON HARPER
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Air Force is considering bonus pay to address a major shortage of drone pilots, according to officials at Air Combat Command.

The demand for drones—which the Air Force calls “remotely piloted aircraft”—has skyrocketed over the past decade and continues to increase. Since the early 2000s, the number of combat air patrols has increased from just a handful to 65.

The Air Force is only at 85 percent of desired manning levels for drone pilots and that number is decreasing, according to Col. Ray “Raygun” Alves.

“We are maxing out our training pipeline right now,” but it’s not enough to match the number of drone operators who are leaving active duty, he told reporters during a conference call Thursday.

Alves, a division chief at Air Combat Command in Langley,

Va., said the service is looking at ways to keep people in the field and to attract others. One possibility, he said, was to give them bonuses.

In 2013, the Air Force offered fighter pilots retention bonuses of up to \$25,000 per year to address projected shortfalls. Alves said the service is considering something similar for drone operators.

Alves, who previously piloted MQ-1 Predator drones, said he could not provide a dollar figure for the potential extra pay or say when it might go into effect.

He was asked whether the Air Force would consider a “stop-loss” policy to prevent drone pilots from leaving active duty if incentives didn’t work to achieve desired manning levels.

“I don’t want to rule anything out,” Alves said.

Pentagon leaders and combatant commanders continue to clamor for more sorties at a time

when the drone force is stretched thin. Drones are ideal for certain intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions as well as strike missions because they can loiter over a target area for long periods of time without putting airmen at risk.

Alves confirmed reports that Gen. Herbert “Hawk” Carlisle, the commander of Air Combat Command, recently sent a memo to Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh warning about the stress on the force.

“AC believes we are about to see a perfect storm of increased ... demand, accession reductions and outflow increases that will damage the readiness and combat capability of the MQ-1/9 enterprise for years to come,” Carlisle wrote, according to The Daily Beast, which first reported the document’s existence. “I am extremely concerned.”

harpn.jon@stripes.com

Twitter: @JHarperStripes



RIC LOOMIS, LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

The U.S. and French air forces are flying unarmed Reaper drones, pictured, over Niger to gather intelligence. The U.S. Air Force may offer bonus pay to drone pilots due to rising demand.

Close: Commander says military will work to ease the impact of transitions

FROM PAGE 6

The special operations mission will go to Spangdahlem, where about 10 CV-22 Ospreys and 10 MC-130J aircraft, and associated personnel from the 352nd Special Operations Group at Mildenhall will relocate, USAFE officials said.

“The EIC identified sufficient excess capacity at both Ramstein and Spangdahlem to absorb the missions currently at RAF Mildenhall,” Andrews said.

Relocating the 606th Air Control Squadron and about 300 personnel from Spangdahlem to Aviano Air Base in Italy will free up some space at Spangdahlem for the special operations move, saving the Air Force about \$50 million in military construction funding, USAFE officials said. A similar air control squadron was inactivated at Aviano in 2013, creating space for the Spangdahlem unit.

Some relocation efforts are expected to start within a year, though an exact timeline for EIC-directed moves is still being considered, according to

a USAFE-AFAFRICA news release. Major moves won’t take place until facilities are ready to receive the mission relocations, with investments expected to be complete within seven years.

“We understand these changes will have substantial impacts on the local areas, but we are dedicated to working closely with our community neighbors, defense partners, personnel and families to ease the impact of these transitions as much as possible,” Gen. Frank Gorenc, USAFE-AFAFRICA commander, said in a statement.

As Lakenheath prepares to host F-35s beginning in 2020, the current plan is to keep the F-15s at the base through summer 2016, Andrews said. Plans for the interim are still being considered.

Officials at the Pentagon added that no decision has been made on whether to base F-35s in Aviano in the future, but such a move is being looked at.

In Italy, the Pentagon said it would add about 200 military positions once the 606th Air Control Squadron relocates from

Spangdahlem.

In the case of the Army, most of the announced consolidations target small outposts and support infrastructure rather than key operational hubs.

For the past decade, the U.S. Army in Europe has been steadily drawing down and consolidating its network of garrisons around Europe. In 2012, USAREUR announced it would inactivate two brigades and close garrisons in Bamberg and Schweinfurt in Germany.

With the new consolidations, 95 military, 147 U.S. civilian and 65 local national positions will be cut from the Army by 2020, and another 405 military, 1,360 U.S. civilian and 1,207 local national positions will be relocated as sites are closed by 2023.

In Portugal, efforts to reduce the mission at Lajes Field will continue with the reduction of 500 military and civilian personnel assigned there and the returning of some infrastructure to Portuguese authorities, according to the Pentagon.

The consolidations come as the

U.S. and its allies in Europe attempt to bolster their presence in eastern Europe as part of an effort to reassure allies and deter Russian aggression in the region.

“I would argue ... the EIC is a reaffirmation for having a robust force in Europe,” said Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs Derek Chollet. “We need to ensure to ourselves, Congress, the American people that we are there as efficiently as we can be.”

The already approved \$1 billion European Reassurance Initiative aims to boost the U.S.’ rotational presence in Europe for a range of training and exercises with NATO partners as well as to support infrastructure improvement projects that will help efforts to reassure allies in eastern Europe.

While moves such as the closure of Mildenhall will alter how the military executes some of its missions, other measures will have an effect on more mundane day-to-day matters.

For example, commissaries at three posts in the Stuttgart mili-

tary community — EUCOM’s Patch Barracks, Africa Command’s Kelly Barracks and the housing community at Robinson Barracks — all will eventually close. In their place will be an upgraded commissary on Panzer Kaserne, home to the garrison headquarters. Commissaries at Illesheim and Sembach also will close.

Meanwhile, officials with Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe said Thursday they are still assessing the effects of the consolidation plan on schools.

The two schools at RAF Alconbury will close when the base shutters, said Bob Purttman, a DODDS-Europe spokesman.

A new elementary and middle-high school is planned for RAF Croughton, which is slated to receive an additional 1,200 personnel from the closing of Alconbury and Molesworth.

Stars and Stripes reporters Jennifer Svan, Carlo Munoz, Adam Mathis and Kent Harris contributed to this report. vandiver.john@stripes.com

STARS AND STRIPES

However you read us, wherever you need us.

Mobile • Online • Print

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
LETTERS@STRIPES.COM

EUROPE

ADVERTISING

KATHRYN PETERSON
peterston.kathryn@stripes.com
+49 (0) 173 313 6411

CIRCULATION

VAN ROWELL
rowell.van@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9111 DSN 314.583.9111

MIDDLE EAST

ADVERTISING

KATHRYN PETERSON
peterston.kathryn@stripes.com
+49 (0) 173 313 6411

CIRCULATION

ROBERT REISMANN
reismann.robert@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9150 DSN 314.583.9150

PACIFIC

ADVERTISING

YUKO SAITO
CustomerHelp@Stripes.com
+81(3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267

CIRCULATION

MARI MATSUMOTO
CustomerHelp@Stripes.com
+81(3) 6385.3171 DSN 315.229.3171

NATION

New evidence to back claim Sony hacked by N. Korea

By ELLEN NAKASHIMA
The Washington Post

FBI Director James Comey said Wednesday that the recent cyber-attack against Sony Pictures was traced back to Internet addresses "exclusively used" by North Korea, as he offered new evidence intended to rebut skeptics of the bureau's claims.

There is "not much in this life that I have high confidence about," Comey said at a cyber-conference at Fordham University in New York. "I have very high confidence about this attribution — as does the entire intelligence community."

The FBI last month attributed the attack to North Korea — a rare instance in which the U.S. government has publicly accused another government of carrying out a specific cyberattack. In a statement, the bureau cited a "technical analysis" of malicious software used in the operation. The analysis revealed links to other malware used previously by North Korean actors, the bureau said. The FBI also said the attack was linked to several Internet protocol addresses "associated with known North Korean infrastructure."

The hackers behind the intrusion into Sony's computer network sent e-mails threatening the firm and posted statements online — in nearly every case using proxy servers to disguise their location, Comey said. But he said that on several occasions they "got sloppy," either "because they forgot, or they had a technical problem."

In those instances, Comey said, analysts could see their Internet protocol addresses, including those used only by North Koreans.

"It was a mistake by them," he said. "They shut it off very quickly once they realized it was a mistake, but not before we saw them."

The attack, ostensibly carried out because of Sony's plan to release a comedy that ends with the death of the North Korean leader, wiped out data from Sony's computers and shut its networks down for several weeks. The hackers, calling themselves Guardians of Peace, also flooded huge volumes of data and leaked large amounts of sensitive company information, including embarrassing internal e-mails.

Some skeptics say the new evidence only raises more questions. How does the bureau know the e-mails allegedly sent by the hackers weren't spoofed and "routed through North Korean infrastructure?" said Marc Rogers, principal security researcher for CloudFlare, a mobile security firm.

Earlier in the day, Director of National Intelligence James Clapper said that the North Korean official who most likely approved the Sony hack was Gen. Kim Yong Chol, head of the Reconnaissance General Bureau, the intelligence agency that Clapper said was "responsible for overseeing the attack."



PHOTOS BY VICTOR CALZADA, THE EL PASO (TEXAS) TIMES/AP

A Fort Bliss Military Police vehicle drives along the perimeter of the El Paso Veterans Affairs Health Care System clinic parking lot as officers searched for a gunman following a shooting inside the facility Tuesday.

FBI says shooter at Texas VA clinic was ex-employee

By RUSSELL CONTRERAS
AND SETH ROBBINS
The Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas — An Army veteran who fatally shot a psychologist at a West Texas veterans' hospital before killing himself was a former clerk at the clinic and had threatened the doctor in 2013, the FBI said Wednesday.

The FBI identified the gunman in Tuesday's shooting as Jerry Serrato, 48, who was medically discharged from the Army in 2009 after serving in Iraq two years earlier. Douglas Lindquist, who heads the FBI's El Paso office, said Serrato used a .380-caliber handgun to shoot Dr. Timothy Fjordbak, 63, and himself at the El Paso Veterans Affairs Health Care System at Fort Bliss.

Fjordbak was a psychologist who left private practice after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks because he wanted to work with military veterans, officials said. Serrato had served in the Ohio Army National Guard from 1985 to 1993, then enlisted in the Army in July 2006, military records show. He served in Iraq for five months in 2007.

Officials did not provide a motive for the shooting. However, Fjordbak had reported Serrato made an unspecified verbal threat against him at an El Paso supermarket in 2013. Serrato had some sort of perceived or real grievance against Fjordbak and said something to the effect of "I know what you did and I will take care of it," Lindquist said.

"It was something in public at a grocery store where Mr. Serrato approached Dr. Fjordbak, who did not recognize him, and he made a verbal threat, and that was the extent of the report. As far as we can tell, that was the only connection that they had,"



Douglas Lindquist, center, FBI special agent in charge of the El Paso office, accompanied by FBI Bliss commander Stephen Twitty left, and Acting Director of the El Paso VA Health Care System Peter Dancy, speak Wednesday about a murder-suicide at the El Paso VA hospital.

Lindquist said.

Both men worked at the VA at the same time in 2013, but authorities do not believe they had a working relationship, Lindquist said. There also was no immediate indication the gunman was a patient, the FBI said.

A security assessment is underway at the clinic in the wake of the shooting, said Peter Dancy, the VA hospital's acting director.

Hundreds of patients, staff and others were at the clinic when the shooting happened.

The shooting comes just four months after the Fort Bliss Commanding Officer Maj. Gen. Stephen Twitty announced new security measures after a military assessment found the base was not fully in compliance with Department of Defense directives. The measures included random vehicle checks and limiting access to Defense Department personnel at some gates. However, four gates remained open to the public, according to a press release.

On Wednesday, civilians were still able to access the post with only a driver's license, passing through just a single checkpoint manned by several soldiers. In-

vestigators talked outside the closed VA clinic, warning of broken glass, while soldiers entered the adjacent William Beaumont Army Medical Center.

Sutton Smith, a worker at the VA clinic, said a "code white" was issued over the intercom system Tuesday indicating an active shooter and ordering people to seek shelter.

Smith said he hid with about a dozen people in a locked room with the lights off for some two hours. Apart from the initial alert and some communication among managers via cellphone, no official updates were provided during the lockdown, he said.

Michael Rushton, an Air Force veteran and former patient of Fjordbak, said Fjordbak was unique in his ability to differentiate between symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury.

"He was the only physician there (at the clinic) that did that," Rushton said. "The big loss is now that facility doesn't have another person like him."

"Everybody scheduled to see him now is going to suffer," Rushton said.

9 measles cases linked to California Disney parks

By AMY TAKIN
The Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. — Seven Californians and two people in Utah have confirmed cases of measles likely contracted on trips last month to Disney theme parks in California, state officials said Wednesday.

Three more California residents are suspected of having measles. All patients with confirmed or suspected cases of the illness visited Disneyland or Disney California Adventure between Dec. 15 and 20, according to the state's Department of Public Health.

They likely got the airborne illness at one of the parks then, officials said, adding that people with measles can be infectious for nine days.

The seven Californians with confirmed cases are from five different areas of the state and range from 8 months to 21 years old. Six were not vaccinated against the disease, including two who were too young to be vaccinated.

Dr. Ron Chapman, director of the state's Department of Public Health, urged anyone who might have been exposed to check with a doctor.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, measles is a highly contagious virus that lives in an infected person's nose and throat mucus and spreads through coughing and sneezing.

Symptoms include fever, cough, runny nose and red eyes and a red rash that usually first appears on the face and spreads to the rest of the body.

Health officials said they had not received any reports of staff contracting measles. Park officials are working with the health department to provide any necessary information, said Dr. Pamela Hymel, chief medical officer for Walt Disney Parks and Resorts.

Health officials declared measles eliminated in the United States in 2000 because of a lack of continuous transmission of the illness. Today, measles is brought into the country by foreign visitors or unvaccinated Americans who get the illness overseas.

Health experts said there isn't much a theme park could do to prevent transmission since measles is airborne, noting the best prevention is vaccination.

Dr. Jonathan L. Temte, chairman of the U.S. Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, said those who caught measles probably were a few feet from someone with the illness who coughed or sneezed — and that many others likely were exposed.

"If you turn around and do the math, of the people at Disneyland at the time that this occurred, probably 90 to 95 percent were vaccinated," Temte said. "All of a sudden you realize that is a much higher attack rate."

NATION

New Senate leader, Obama lining up fights

By CONNIE CASS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Not wasting any time, new Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and President Barack Obama are setting a course for showdowns over health care, a big oil pipeline, immigration policy and financing of the agency that tries to protect the U.S. from terrorists.

At the same time, both insist they are eager for compromise — if only the other side would give in.

"It seems with every new day, we have a new veto threat from the president," McConnell, R-Ky., complained Wednesday, his second day as Senate leader. Republicans won control of the chamber

in the November elections, and strengthened their hold on the House.

With the 114th Congress just getting underway, the White House already has announced that Obama stands ready to veto three bills that Republicans hope to rush through. One would allow construction of the Keystone XL pipeline to bring oil from Canada. Another weakens Obama's signature health care law, by increasing the definition of a full-time employee who must be offered health coverage at work to 40 hours from the current 30. The third would alter a key provision of the 2010 Dodd-Frank overhaul of financial services regulations.

"The president is not going

to set the agenda for us here in the Senate," McConnell told reporters.

Lamenting the deadly attack on a satirical newspaper in Paris, McConnell said the attack underscores that the war on terrorism is not over. He declined to say whether the attack would affect Republican plans to use the Homeland Security Department's budget as leverage against Obama's immigration policy.

"But at the end of the day, we're going to fund the department, obviously," McConnell said.

The anti-terrorism agency's budget expires in late February, and Republicans have been working on a plan to tie new funding to a measure overturning Obama's action that eased immigration

rules last year and decreased deportations. McConnell said "we'll decide in February how to handle it."

Tea party-backed Sen. Ted Cruz, one of the loudest voices against Obama's immigration policy, said there was no reason to pull back from stopping the president's "abuse of power and his unconstitutional actions."

It's Obama who should worry about the security risks if he considers a veto that would shut down the Homeland Security Department, said Cruz, R-Texas.

Even as McConnell and Obama skirmished from afar, both maintained there is hope for bipartisan cooperation.

Obama, who meets with Republican congressional leaders

next week, said he expects "some pitched political battles" but is hopeful for a "productive 2015."

In his first big speech as majority leader, McConnell talked of working with Obama on trade agreements, infrastructure improvements and rewriting tax laws.

He even raised the prospect of tackling some big issues that have bedeviled Congress for years, such as shoring up Medicare and Social Security, balancing the budget and whittling away the national debt.

"But bipartisan reform can only be achieved if President Obama is interested in it," McConnell said. "The president is the only one who can bring his party on board."

Father accused of tossing girl, 5, off bridge in Fla.

By TAMARA LUSH
The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — A Florida man driving toward a bridge over Tampa Bay pulled his car over early Thursday, took his 5-year-old daughter from the backseat, pressed her head to his chest and tossed her over the rail, according to police in St. Petersburg.

John Nicholas Jonchuck, 25, faces first-degree murder charges. His daughter, Phoebe, fell about 60 feet over the Sunshine Skyway bridge into the bay just after midnight, St. Petersburg Police Chief Anthony Holloway said at a news conference.

An officer heading home after his shift saw Jonchuck's vehicle speed past at nearly 100 mph, Holloway said. The officer pre-

pared to pull the PT Cruiser over, but by the time he caught up with it, Jonchuck had pulled over on the side of the road.

Holloway said Jonchuck got out and started toward the officer, who pulled his weapon. But Jonchuck went around to the passenger side of the car and got the child out.

The officer "thought he heard the child scream, but he wasn't sure," Holloway said. The officer then saw the man throw the child over into the strong bay current.

Her body was recovered about a mile from the bridge an hour and a half later. Rescue crews tried to revive her, but she was pronounced dead at 2:44 a.m.

Back on the road, officers said Jonchuck got back into the car and headed south.

"The suspect drove off," Holloway said. "He just drove off."

Documents: Girl, 15, who shot brother suffered abuse

By JASON DEAREAN
The Associated Press

WHITE SPRINGS, Fla. — After suffering years of abuse at home, a 15-year-old girl broke into her parents' locked room through a window, took their gun while they were away and shot her 16-year-old brother to death, authorities said.

On Wednesday, authorities released police documents and interviews describing the abuse, including that the girl was locked in a room for weeks at a time with only a blanket and a bucket to use as the bathroom.

The shooting at a small, white house off a dirt road in rural northern Florida happened Monday while the children's parents were away for work. The father, a truck driver, and his wife, who often went with him, left the 16-year-old boy to watch over the 15-year-old and her sisters, ages

11 and 3, police said. The parents left Sunday and were due back Tuesday.

Sometime Monday, the 15-year-old girl was locked in her room by her brother, police said. After the boy fell asleep, she talked her 11-year-old sister into unlocking her door.

The older girl knew her parents kept a pistol in their room, but they had locked their door. So the girl went outside and used a knife to remove an air conditioner from her parents' bedroom window. She climbed in while her 11-year-old sister kept watch and grabbed the gun out of a pink bag and loaded it, police said.

The girl went back inside the house, telling her young sisters to get into a closet, she told police. She turned her head and fired at her sleeping brother in the living room, and he screamed "Help! Help!"



ROBERT FRANKLIN, SOUTH BEND (IND.) TRIBUNE/AP

A man walks through snow Wednesday at Pinhook Park in South Bend, Ind.

Wintry weather brings fatalities

By DAVE COLLINS
The Associated Press

Dangerously cold air sent temperatures plummeting Thursday around the U.S., resulting in school cancellations, a fatal car pileup and worries about the homeless.

School districts from the South to the Northeast and the Midwest were delaying the start of classes or canceling school altogether.

Many cities experiencing cold weather opened warming stations for residents lacking heat. Extra care was being taken to protect the homeless.

In New Jersey, some officials empowered law enforcement to move homeless people off the

streets and into shelters.

Blankets were given out at some of the 15 small tent cities around Huntsville, Ala. Workers from a nonprofit organization there encouraged residents of the encampments to come inside. Some people planned to stay at a church that was opening as a shelter.

In western Pennsylvania, an 18-vehicle pileup that happened in whiteout conditions on an interstate left two people dead and nearly two dozen injured.

At least one of the trucks was carrying hazardous material, but no leaks were found.

None of the injuries was thought to be life-threatening, but three of the approximately 20 people taken to a hospital apparently

had serious injuries. The others were treated for everything from bumps to broken bones.

In western New York, where the Buffalo area got slammed with more than 7 feet of snow in a historic November storm, 12 inches fell on Tuesday. Thursday night and Friday could bring up to 10 inches more, weather forecasters say.

Meanwhile, in the Southwest, Phoenix posted a record high temperature of 80 degrees on Wednesday. That broke the old record of 79 Fahrenheit set in 1948.

The National Weather Service recently announced that 2014 was the warmest year ever recorded in Arizona.

WORLD



Said Kouachi



Cherif Kouachi

Mourn: Paris honors victims as authorities hunt for the suspects

FROM FRONT PAGE

France's prime minister said the possibility of a new attack "is our main concern" and announced several overnight arrests. Tensions ran high in Paris, where 800 extra police patrolled schools, places of worship and transit hubs. Britain increased its security checks at ports and borders.

The satirical newspaper *Charlie Hebdo* had caricatured the Prophet Muhammad and witnesses said the attackers claimed allegiance to al-Qaida in Yemen. Around the world, from Berlin to Bangkok, thousands filled squares and streets for a second day, holding up pens to protect the right to freedom of speech.

"The only thing we can do is to live fearlessly," wrote Kai Diekmann, editor in chief of *Bild*, Germany's biggest-selling daily. "Our colleagues in Paris have paid the ultimate price for freedom. We bow before them."

Eight journalists, two police officers, a maintenance worker and a visitor were killed in Wednesday's newspaper attack and 11 people were wounded, four of them critically. The publication had long drawn threats for its depictions of Islam, although it also satirized other religions and political figures.

French Prime Minister Manuel Valls said the two suspects still at large in the slayings — Cherif Kouachi, 32, and Said Kouachi, 34 — were known to France's intelligence services. Cherif Kouachi was convicted of terrorism in 2008 for ties to a network that sends radical fighters to Iraq. His lawyer confirmed Thursday that police tracked down the identities of the brothers because one left his ID behind in a getaway car.

By Thursday afternoon, authorities focused their search around the towns Villers-Cotterets and Crepy-en-Valois, northeast of Paris, according to an official with the national gendarme service.

Two men resembling the sus-

pects robbed a gas station in Villers-Cotterets early Thursday, and police swarmed the site while helicopters hovered above. Later, large numbers of special police units arrived in Crepy-en-Valois amid reports the suspects had holed up there. However, the gendarme official later said the men had not yet been located.

A third suspect, Mourad Hamyd, 18, surrendered at a police station after hearing his name linked to the attacks, a Paris prosecutor's spokeswoman said. His relationship to the Kouachi brothers was unclear.

One French police official, speaking on condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing, said the suspects were linked to a Yemeni terrorist network. And a witness, Cedric Le Becque, wrote on Facebook that the attackers said as they were fleeing "Tell the media that it's al-Qaida in Yemen."

The governor of a southern province in Yemen told *The Associated Press* on Thursday that four French citizens had been deported from Yemen in the last four months. Gov. Ahmed Abdullah al-Majidi said he didn't have their names and there was no confirmed link between those deportations and the *Charlie Hebdo* attack.

Two explosions hit near mosques in France early Thursday, raising fears the deadly attack at *Charlie Hebdo* was igniting a backlash against France's large and diverse Muslim community. No one was injured in the attacks, one in *Le Mans* southwest of Paris and another in Villeneuve-sur-Seine, near Lyon, southeast of the capital.

France's top security official, meanwhile, abandoned a top-level meeting to rush to a shooting on the city's southern edge that killed a policeman. The shooter remained at large and it was not immediately clear if her death was linked to Wednesday's deadly attack.

A French security official said



PHOTOS BY THIBAUT CAMUS/AP

French riot officers patrol Thursday in Longpont, north of Paris. Much of France was on edge the day after 12 people were slain at a Paris newspaper, but many residents defiantly held a day of mourning for the victims of Wednesday's attack.

seven people had been arrested overnight in the investigation, speaking on condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing.

Fears have run high in Europe that jihadis trained in warfare abroad would stage attacks at home. The French suspect in a deadly 2014 attack on a Jewish museum in Belgium had returned from fighting with extremists in Syria; and the man who rampaged in southern France in 2012, killing three soldiers and four people at a Jewish school in Toulouse, received paramilitary training in Pakistan.

Both al-Qaida and the Islamic State group have repeatedly threatened to attack France, which is conducting airstrikes against extremists in Iraq and fighting Islamic militants in Africa.

Charlie Hebdo editor Stephane Charbonnier, one of those slain, was specifically threatened in a 2013 edition of the al-Qaida magazine *Inspire*. A caricature of the Islamic State's leader was the last tweet sent out by the satirical newspaper, minutes before the attack. Its feed has since gone silent.

One witness to Wednesday's attack said the gunmen were so methodical he at first mistook them for an elite anti-terrorism squad. Then they fired on a police officer. Once inside the building, the gunmen headed straight for Charbonnier, killing him and his police bodyguard first. Shouting "Allahu akbar" as they fired, the killers then called out the names of other employees.

In Tunisia, the birthplace of one of the slain cartoonists, Georges Wolinski, dozens paid homage in a candlelight vigil outside the French ambassador's residence.

"These people were executed at point-blank range just because of drawings — drawings that didn't please everyone and provoked anger and controversy but still were just drawings," said journalist Marouen Achouri.



JORDI MIER/AP

An image taken from a video shows masked gunmen walking past a police officer moments after shooting him outside the offices of French satirical newspaper *Charlie Hebdo* in Paris on Wednesday.

Air Force at Ramstein restricts travel to Paris

From staff reports

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Air Force officials at Ramstein are restricting travel tours to Paris for at least a week after Wednesday's shooting at the satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo*.

Twelve died in the Paris attack, and two gunmen remain at large.

The 16th Airlift Wing issued guidance Thursday postponing USO and RTT tours to Paris through Jan. 14.

No other travel restrictions are currently in place, said Maj. Tony Wickman, 86th Air-

lift Wing spokesman.

Airmen and their families are urged to review State Department travel warnings and foreign clearance guidance when making travel plans to and from Paris, he said.

The wing also directed that all units contact any personnel currently on leave in Paris to ensure they are safe, but no one has been recalled to Ramstein, Wickman said.

A spokesman for U.S. Army Europe said Thursday he wasn't aware of any travel restrictions to Paris it had imposed.

WORLD

France's anti-terrorism fight incites attacks

By SLOBODAN LEKIC
Stars and Stripes

France's anti-terrorism campaigns in North Africa and the Middle East, along with its strong secular traditions, have made it a tempting target for Muslim extremists such as those who carried out the deadly attack on a French satirical magazine — the bloodiest terrorist strike in the country in half a century.

ANALYSIS

France is a target because we have sought to bring stability to (North Africa and the Middle East) by defeating the radicals that have caused such turmoil in those regions," Robert Badinter, a former French justice minister, told Thursday's France Inter Radio on Thursday morning.

As of Thursday afternoon, French police were conducting a massive hunt for two brothers suspected of Wednesday's raid on the offices of the magazine Charlie Hebdo. Twelve people including the publication's chief editor, several cartoonists and two police officers — were killed. The magazine, which was famous for poking fun at Islam, was firebombed three years ago in connection with a cartoon of the Prophet Mohammed.

In the aftermath of the bloodbath, police released the photos of two suspects, brothers Said and Cherif Kouachi, who had a history of recruiting jihadist fighters for the wars in Syria and Iraq, according to authorities.

The brothers are French citizens of Algerian descent.

Wednesday's attack in the heart of Paris was the deadliest in France since 1961, when right-wing militants opposed to France's withdrawal from Algeria bombed a train, killing 28 people. In recent years, the nation has witnessed a string of smaller attacks by Islamic radicals.

Those attacks have coincided with Paris' assertive role in fighting terrorist networks across North Africa and the Middle East during the past three years, including the current U.S.-led bombing campaign against Islamic State forces in Iraq and Syria, analysts say.

"While nothing could justify the appalling events in Paris, it remains a fact that three of a relatively small handful of Western states that have joined that campaign — Canada, Australia and now France — have experienced terrorist attacks in recent months," said Nick Witney, former head of the European Defense Agency and a senior fellow at the Paris-based European Council on Foreign Affairs.

In December, a lone gunman with jihadist sympathies died along with two of his victims after a hostage-taking and siege in Sydney, Australia. Two Canadian soldiers died in separate attacks by Muslim extremists in Montreal and Ottawa, Canada, in October.

France, which has a long history of colonialism in Muslim areas of North Africa and Syria, has deployed considerable forces

in the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa — sometimes acting alone and sometimes in coalitions with the U.S. and others — in an expanding campaign against Islamic radicals.

Paris contributed about 4,000 troops to the NATO's 13-year mission in Afghanistan. A similar number, backed by tanks, helicopters and attack jets, were deployed two years ago to the African nation of Mali when it was in danger of being overrun by jihadists. That mission has expanded to cover neighboring nations such as Niger and Chad.

The French air force was the first to join the U.S.-led effort against the Islamic State in Syria and Iraq, dispatching 15 Mirage and Rafale fighter-bombers to conduct bombing raids. French advisers are helping train Iraqi government forces to take on the militants. Reuters news agency has reported that the French navy will join that campaign by sending the aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle with its 30 attack jets to the area.

In response, the Islamic State has urged sympathizers in France to launch terrorist attacks at home. According to French news reports, there are nearly 1,000 French citizens fighting with the jihadist against the governments of Syria and Iraq. About 200 of those have returned home, bringing with them tactical infantry skills needed to conduct attacks.

Ed Blanche, a Beirut-based analyst and member of London's International Institute for Security

Studies, said: "Paris and other European governments ... fear that many of the thousands of [jihadis] from their countries now fighting in Syria and Iraq will eventually return and carry their fight to Western Europe, where there is a huge pool of potential recruits among the 19 million Muslims living in the [European Union], many of them marginalized, neglected, jobless and angry."

One such returnee, Mehdi Nemmouche, is accused in the deadly shooting last May at Belgium's Jewish Museum in which four people died. Prosecutors say he spent a year in Syria fighting with Islamic State forces and when arrested was carrying an AK-47 bearing the group's insignia.

Photos and videos from the scene of Wednesday's attack indicate that the gunmen were well-trained and experienced in the use of firearms and in small-unit infantry tactics.

"This raises the possibility that they had received training in using light arms (perhaps at a jihadist camp overseas) or had fought with [jihadis] overseas," said a report released by STRATFOR, the Texas-based security-analysis firm.

France's history of secularism — including strict separation of religion and state — dates from the French Revolution of 1789. It has contributed to tensions with the country's Muslim immigrant community, which sees secularism as a threat to its own religious beliefs and values.

In a particularly significant episode in 2010, parliament enacted a law banning Muslim women from wearing traditional burkas or hijabs, which cover their faces. The ban was criticized by many of France's Muslims — including mainstream moderates — as a violation of freedom of expression.

For years, France has struggled to cope with its growing Muslim population, which at 5 million, is the largest in Europe.

A 2011 report commissioned by the French think tank L'Institut Montaigne found that Muslim immigrants were increasingly rejecting French values and instead immersing themselves in Islam, according to an English translation of the report posted by the Galston Institute website. The report warned that Islamic Sharia law was rapidly displacing French civil laws in many parts of suburban Paris.

More than 40 percent of the Muslim youths in Paris suburbs are unemployed, causing many to turn to "deviant behaviors," the report found.

On Thursday, an editorial in the Paris daily Les Echos called for the reaffirmation of the principles "on which the Republic was built."

"We must reaffirm the principle of secularism, a founding value of the French identity, against which the Islamists have long waged a veritable crusade," the editorial said.

lekic.slobodan@stripes.com

Paris killings seen adding fuel to Europe's anti-Islam movements

By PATRICK DONAHUE
Bloomberg News

The killing of at least 12 people at a French magazine that received threats because of its depiction of Islam stands to exacerbate already burgeoning anti-Muslim sentiment in Europe, political analysts said.

The shooting by masked gunmen at the satirical weekly Charlie Hebdo in eastern Paris on Wednesday adds to a tense environment, with an anti-immigrant party dominating in France, mosque burnings in Sweden and thousands marching in Germany decrying the "Islamization" of the West.

"Any incident like the one in Paris will only be fuel to the fire," Joerg Forbrig, the senior program director at the German Marshall Fund of the U.S., said by phone from Berlin. "It will be welcomed as a 'last you-do' episode" by radical movements saying Islam is a threat to our countries."

The attackers are at large and no motive has been confirmed. Charlie Hebdo's offices were firebombed in 2011 when it featured the Prophet Mohammed as a "last editor." The magazine sparked worldwide outrage among

Muslims in 2012 after publishing cartoons mocking the prophet.

The leader of the anti-Islam Freedom Party in the Netherlands, Geert Wilders, took aim at Dutch and European political establishments and Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte.

"When will Rutte and other western government leaders finally get the message: It's war," Wilders said.

Europe's political establishment, struggling to respond to the region's sagging economy and near-record unemployment, has been buffeted by insurgent factions that have exploited a rise in sentiment against foreigners and Muslims.

"Europe is in the grip of so much tension over the question of Islam and immigration," said Shada Islam, director of policy at the Friends of Europe advisory group in Brussels. "There is the danger in the immediate aftermath that this is going to strengthen the anti-immigration campaigns, but you have to have a longer-term strategy when the emotions subside."

Leaders from Islamic countries and organizations expressed outrage over the slaughter, with the French Council of the Muslim

Religion condemning the "barbaric" attack.

The group also called on "all those committed to the values of the Republic and democracy to avoid provocations that only serve to throw oil on the fire," and on French Muslims to "exercise the utmost vigilance against possible manipulations from extremist groups."

Polls show the anti-immigration National Front in France taking the lead in a first-round vote over established parties. The National Front has gained at least some traction by voicing fear of the spread of Islam.

The country is home to Europe's largest Muslim population, with more than 5 million people of the faith out of a population of about 65 million.

The magazine devoted this week's cover to French novelist Michel Houellebecq's "Submission." The novel, released Wednesday, has prompted controversy with its narrative of France in 2022 led by an Islamist party, which defeats the National Front, and a Muslim president who bans women from the workplace.

The National Front leader Marine Le Pen, who features in the novel,



MARTIN MEISSNER/AP

A protester holds a banner reading "Stop Islam Terror" on Monday during a rally called Patriotic Europeans against the Islamization of the West in Cologne, Germany.

said in a video posted on her party's website after the attack that "time's up for denial and hypocrisy."

In Germany, thousands have attended anti-Islamist rallies that began in the eastern city of Dresden in October organized by a group calling itself Pegida, or Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamization of the West. The group's rally three days ago drew its largest support yet, with 18,000 marchers.

"The Islamists, against which Pegida has warned for the last 12 weeks, have shown today in France that they're not capable of democracy but rather rely on violence

and death as a solution," the group said on its Facebook page. "But more politicians would have to believe the opposite."

Karl-Heinz Kamp, academic director at the German government's Federal Academy for Security Policy in Berlin, predicted before the attacks that any such incident would boost a group like Pegida.

"This sort of movement will explode in Germany when we have the first major Islamist violence here," Kamp said in an interview last month. "It would grow tenfold after the first head is cut off in Cologne or Berlin."

NATION

FOSTERING GROWTH



The Associated Press

ANGOLA, La.

Christopher O'Neal has mastered many parts of landscaping and greenhouse work — plant cultivation and pesticide application, among six others — though it's unlikely he'll put those skills to use outside the walls of Louisiana's prison in Angola. So he tends to greenhouse plants that will be sold at the prison's rodeos and trains short-timers for honest work on the outside.

Of the 30 students and 11 mentors, most are in for life or "tall numbers." Those who will get out can make a new career or resume an old one with more licenses and updated information; those staying find a positive way to spend their time.

"It has taught me a side of myself I didn't know I had," said O'Neal, 40, who was convicted at 17 of killing an 8-year-old boy and at 34 of killing his ex-girlfriend's husband. He's been at Angola since 2008 and is getting help with appeals, hoping for a reversal, though the courts so far have not viewed his case favorably.

"Guilty as sin," Judge Harmon Drew wrote in an April 2009 opinion for the state's 2nd Circuit Court of Appeal.

Louisiana inmates earning landscaping, horticulture licenses

Only about a quarter of the inmates getting their certifications are in programs aimed at helping them re-enter society.

"The thing about a life sentence is you've got to find something to do — to pass the time, to help others go out and find jobs, and look forward to getting out ourselves," said James Burns, convicted of stabbing and running over his wife and, like O'Neal, serving life for second-degree murder. He has two licenses and is working on a third.

The horticulture program here, started in 2002, has 7 acres at a prison that covers more land area than Manhattan, said Marcus Barnard, who works at Angola full time as an assistant professor of horticulture at Baton Rouge Community College. It's modeled after a program started in 1995 at the Louisiana Women's Correctional Institution in St. Gabriel.

Each inmate has a 50-by-75-foot plot to grow whatever he wants, and a larger plot where he must grow specific crops.

There's little scope for their skills in the rest of the prison. For example, few could spray pesticides on the 600 to 800 acres of row crops grown to feed inmates at Angola and other prisons, Barnard said. Most are not trustees — inmates given special privileges for good behavior — and must stay in the prison yard, he said.

The mentors earn big money for prison inmates: 50 to 75 cents an hour. Field hands, by comparison, sweat for 2 to 20 cents an hour.

Some of the mentors are convicted killers,



though there's an unspoken rule: no talking about the past.

"A lot of them have matured and moved on in their lives. We all make mistakes, some just worse than others," said Timothy "Bo" Blackwell, who served a year for running a meth lab.

More than 90 inmates have earned about 250 certifications from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry over the past five years, Barnard said.

He said the few who have moved into society have done well, often earning supervisory jobs and running crews for landscaping companies.

Once they're out, they must check in weekly with the court and meet twice weekly with other former inmates and counselors, said Michael Costello, 47, who earned four licenses. In the meetings, he said, "you try to be a light to others."

Costello had his own landscaping business before going to prison for theft. While serving his 18-month sentence, he lined up a job with the brother of another inmate in the horticulture program.

Blackwell, 36, also had a short search — his family owns a Folsom nursery. He earned four licenses in a year.

"I'd wanted them for years," he said. "I just was too lazy to go do 'em."

Inmates at the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola, La., are getting state licenses in landscaping and horticulture. The goal is to provide them with a better chance at employment following their release. The inmates are also helping to grow and prepare food that will be served at the prison.

PHOTOS BY GERALD HERBERT/AP



NATION



Flying HIGH

Makers of Airstream luxury recreational vehicles can't keep up with demand

BY MITCH STACY
The Associated Press

BJACKSON CENTER, Ohio
ob Wheeler still gets the question sometimes when people find out he runs the company that builds those shiny aluminum campers: "Airstreams? They still make those?"

Not only are the retro-looking "silver bullet" travel-trailers still being built by hand at the same western Ohio site that has produced

them for 60 years, but the company also can't roll them out of there fast enough to meet the demand these days.

The instantly recognizable silver bubble design — inspired by airplane fuselages — hasn't been tweaked much since the first Airstreams took to the open road in the 1930s on the way to becoming an American icon. The polished campers have cameoed in Hollywood movies and even quarantined the Apollo 11 astronauts when they got back from the moon. They have

also inspired a legion of devotees who socialize with one another at Airstream caravans and rallies all over the world — including an annual Ohio jamboree known as "Alumapalooza."

"Anytime we've seen an Airstream, it's like the clouds part and an angelic choir starts singing," said Cliff Garinn, 49, a college career counselor from Dallas. He and his husband bought a new one in April and are already trading up to a larger model for frequent weekend camping trips and summer vacation.

Airstream builds 50 travel-trailers every week at the plant in Jackson Center, all gleaming and aerodynamic and riveted by hand. The backlog is about three months, and ground has already been broken on a major expansion at the factory north of Dayton that eventually will increase production capacity by 50 percent.

The RV industry was dealt a body blow by the Great Recession but has rebounded with gusto. Shipments in 2014 are expected to be up more than 8 percent, following the best October in the industry in nearly 40 years. Production next year is expected to return to levels seen before the economy tanked.

Airstream — owned by the larger Indiana-based RV maker Thor Industries — is riding the wave, surging with three record years in a row. Wheeler said shipments now are about twice what they were during the best days before the recession.

Besides a better economy, Airstream is benefiting from a big bubble of baby boomers, many now choosing not to wait until their 60s to buy one, and a new wave of desire for the classic designs of America's yesteryear — even if they command top dollar. New Airstreams run \$42,000 to \$140,000.

"For us, the Airstream just represented this beautiful piece of machinery, this beautiful design that other trailers and RVs don't give you," said Kate Gilbert, 46.

She and her husband, Iain, sold their house in San Diego last year and now live full time in their 27-foot solar panel-equipped Airstream, traveling the country.

Tara Cox, 40, a magazine editor who wrote a book called "Airstream: The Silver RV," notes the fandom bordering on fanaticism that the trailers inspire, besides the fact that they cost more than other RVs, usually have less storage space and require more maintenance to keep the outside looking nice. She compares Airstream owners with Harley-Davidson riders who baby their bikes.

"It's that labor of love," she said.

Baby boomers are still the heart of the demographic, but the company is actively reaching out to younger people, using social media to show them how an Airstream could fit their lifestyles. It's also testing less-expensive, lighter and easier-to-tow designs that Wheeler said might be "less intimidating" to younger buyers.

Airstream got an injection of hip recently when it collaborated with the Columbus College of Art and Design to

plan and build a camper with a workspace and living area aimed at people in their 20s and 30s whose jobs allow them to work from anywhere. The company says the design elements — including a rear hatch that opens the convertible work area to the great outdoors — will be incorporated into future production models.

Meggin Hurlburt, 34, a paralegal from San Diego, said the Airstream purchase was an investment in her family. She's married and has a 6-year-old son. She said the vintage look and the reputation for durability drew them in, even with the \$70,000-plus price tag.

"We didn't want to wait until we were retired because we wanted to enjoy it now," she said. "It's not like the white box trailer that's going to fall apart in 10 years. We bought this knowing we can give it to our son, and maybe he can give it to his children."



Get to know Airstream

■ Wally Byam built the first Airstream trailer as a tent contraption on a Model T chassis, eventually replacing the tent with a teardrop-shaped permanent shelter. The riveted aluminum, aviation-inspired design emerged in the 1930s and hasn't been tweaked greatly since then. Since 1952, Airstreams have been built at a factory in Jackson Center, Ohio. Byam would spend much of the rest of his life leading Airstream caravans around the world.

■ Airstream trailers have long been a part of American culture, so naturally they've rolled through dozens of Hollywood movies and TV shows, ranging from "Raising Arizona" and "Independence Day" to "What's Eating Gilbert Grape." Matthew McConaughey spent a month on the road in his Airstream promoting his 2005 movie "Sahara." He told Architectural Digest his home on wheels was "a beautiful piece of art."

■ An RV dealer named Frank Bates buried eight Airstream trailers halfway in the ground alongside Interstate 4 just outside of Tampa, Fla., in 2007. Known as Airstream Ranch, the "sculpture" has survived despite a legal battle over local government efforts to get rid of it. Some people call it art. Some people call it an eyesore. It's definitely become a tourist attraction.

— Sources: Airstream; "Airstream: The Silver RV," by Tara Cox; "Wanderlust: Airstream at 75," by Russ Banham

The western Ohio plant that has built Airstream travel-trailers for the past 60 years is seeing such hot demand that there's a three-month backlog on orders, and ground has been broken on a major expansion that will increase production capacity.

PHOTOS BY JAY LAPRETE/AP



WIRED WORLD

Sky's the limit for drones at CES trade show

By HAVEN DALEY
The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — When you're searching for the hottest gadgets on the floor of this year's consumer electronics show, be sure to look up. For the first time ever, there's an International CES section dedicated to drones. More than 20 companies are showing off dozens of different models.

"People have been saying the drones are coming," said Andrew Amato, editor-in-chief of DroneLife. "But I think the fact that we have an unmanned systems area dedicated to them now means they're not coming, they're here."

Global revenue for drones will reach \$130 million this year, up more than 50 percent from last year, according to the Consumer Electronics Association. One new feature attracting drone buyers is so-called "follow me" technology, which allows a drone to automatically follow and film the user, who wears a tracking device on his or her wrist. It's a cool tool for getting aerial

footage of extreme sports.

"When you're ready to surf, just push a button, the air dog will come over, shoot you," said Edgars Rozentals, founder of AirDog, which is delivering test kits to pilot customers after CES. "When you're done, press a button and it will go back over to the beach and land and you're ready for the next wave." That action footage is looking sharper than ever as more drones are taking advantage of today's 4K resolution cameras and image stabilizers.

But federal regulations haven't caught up with advancements in drone technology. The Federal Aviation Administration, still concerned about drones getting in the way of commercial aircraft, requires drone users to have prior approval before flying their drones. However, just this week the FAA issued new permits to allow drones to monitor crops and photograph properties posted for sale.

Drone operators say once other restrictions are lifted, the sky's the limit.



Above: Andrea Halter holds up an eXom SenseFLY drone at the Parrot booth during the International CES show in Las Vegas on Tuesday.

Left: Drones buzz around the Autel booth during International CES on Wednesday.

PHOTOS BY JOHN LOCKER/AP



Smart and pretty: Fashion designers spruce up smartwatches

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Smartwatches don't have to look ugly to be functional. Clothing and accessories designers are collaborating with engineers to produce computerized wristwatches that people will want to wear all day and night.

With Apple Inc. preparing to release a watch line that includes an 18-karat gold edition, rivals know they need to think beyond devices that look like miniature computers — with their rectangular screens and wristbands made of rubber-like materials. If the watches aren't attractive, the market won't grow beyond a small niche of users.

"The big brick on the wrist is not what a fashionable person is going to wear on a day-to-day basis," said Cindy Livingston, CEO of Sequel, a Timex business that makes traditional watches under the Guess clothing brand. That's especially so for women, she said, as many of the existing smartwatches are simply too big for their wrists.

At the International CES gadget show in Las Vegas this week, Guess said it's partnering with Martians Watches to make a line of fashionable smartwatches. Guess took its leading line of traditional watches, Rigor, and incorporated Martians' technology. From a distance, the new Guess Connect looks like a traditional watch with a crown, or dial, on the right. Closer inspection reveals the addition of two control buttons and a small, one-line display for notifications near 6 o'clock.

LG, meanwhile, consulted with outside design experts and a sister company that makes fashion and home-decor products. The first smartwatch was rectangular, primarily because of production constraints. A



Jae C. Hong/AP

The Guess Connect smartwatch, powered by Martians Watches, is displayed at the Martians booth at the International CES show in Las Vegas on Wednesday.

round model followed just months later.

Other companies took fashion into account from the start. Burg's Dutch founder, Herman van den Burg, has had 20 years of work in design. At CES, the company showcased new stainless-steel models and one with Swarovski crystals, both due out in March. Van den Burg said a watch, as something you wear, is highly personal and must fit your lifestyle.

Cogito's Classic model has room for just 24 characters of text so most of the face can be devoted to making the watch a watch. A

"The big brick on the wrist is not what a fashionable person is going to wear on a day-to-day basis."

Cindy Livingston
CEO of Sequel, a Timex business

fitness tracker coming in April will have interchangeable parts to add patterns on the rim.

The Consumer Electronics Association projects that U.S. sales of wearable devices will reach 31 million this year, up 61 percent. Most will be health and fitness devices, such as step counters. Although general purpose smartwatches are expected to reach just 11 million, or about a third of all wearable devices, that's more than quadruple what was sold in 2014.

Those seeking specialized functions might not care about design, but those looking to wear something around the clock might, said Ralph de la Vega, head of AT&T's mobile and business solutions division. Apple will "raise the bar," de la Vega said. "Others are going to have to work hard to stay up with it."

High fashion won't come cheap. Health-tech company Withings hired traditional watch designers to make a fitness-tracking watch called Activite, pronounced Activity. It looks like a regular watch except for a second dial on the face to show progress toward that day's fitness goals. Activite is being manufactured at an unspecified watch factory in Switzerland, rather than in Asia, where consumer electronics are typically produced. With high-quality materials, including calf leather for the band,

Activite costs \$450, compared with \$200 to \$300 for typical smartwatches today. Even at that price, Withings sold out an undisclosed number in a day when it came out in November.

At CES, the Garmin company said it partnered with designer Jonathan Adler to make patterned straps for its Vivofit 2 fitness tracker, to be sold in sets of three for \$40. Sony is making a stainless steel edition of its SmartWatch 3 for \$50 more, or \$300.

Efforts to make wearable technology more fashionable are intriguing, but companies will still need to convince consumers they need another device, said Jorge Aguilar at the brand-consulting firm Landor Associates. Apple is one of the few companies that might pull it off, he said, but even the iPad and iPhone maker still needs to make the case for another screen.

Apple has teased consumers with promises of an Apple Watch that can locate parked cars in a crowded lot or unlock hotel room doors with a tap. It will also make smaller versions, which might appeal to women, and designs and bands appropriate for different settings, such as a workout or a night out. But a lot still isn't known, including how much these fashionable configurations will cost. The base model will cost \$349. There's been speculation the gold edition could cost in the thousands of dollars.

NATION

Slobbery sidekicks

Dogs ride in sidecars with their humans

By SUE MANNING

The Associated Press

SOME silken-haired beauties are eager sidekicks to motorcycle riders, wind whipping their thick locks as passers-by watch the wild ride with envy. That is until the slobber starts.

These passengers are pooches — mastiffs, Labradors and Chihuahuas often clad in goggles and tiny leather jackets that fly along in blimp-shaped buckets attached to the side of motorcycles. They are set apart from other pets by speed in-

stead of breed.

They are also the stars of "Sit Stay Ride: The Story of America's Sidecar Dogs," a documentary that was largely funded by an online crowdfunding campaign and gives a quarter of its proceeds to shelters and rescues. The movie is also available for free to any animal welfare agency wanting to screen it as a fundraiser.

The documentary by filmmaking couple Eric and Geneva Ristau is the unique story of 15 dogs and 18 riders who spend all the time they can on three wheels.

Ian Roper, 43, and his bull mastiff Bruce love to take it easy on a slow ride. It's a departure for Roper, who said he raced cars and motorcycles for years in Detroit and Snohomish, a city northeast of Seattle, to enjoy the speed and feel of the open air.

"It is much slower than a motorcycle, but it is a much more relaxed ride," Roper said.

Bruce, who's nearly 4 and weighs 135 pounds, keeps it interesting on the road. When they are in the forest, the dog will react if he detects a deer or other wildlife.

"He is tied in so he can't run off, but he'll stand up if he smells something interesting," Roper said.

If tree branches hang over the road, "he will grab at leaves as they go by. When we get where we are going, the sidecar is half-full of leaves. It's a game to him."

Things get really fun when they come to a stop sign or park at a store and a crowd gathers around. Everyone is laughing and pointing at Bruce in his sweet ride. Then, the dog will start shaking his head, splattering slobber on the crowd or their cars. Smiles fade, people move away and cars drive off.

"I never really thought about a sidecar until I got a dog, but I will never be without one again," Roper said.



COURTESY OF ERIC RISTAU/AP



AP photos

Throughout the U.S., there are dogs of all breeds riding in the open air of motorcycle sidecars, whether on short trips around town or on extended adventures on the highway. "Sit Stay Ride: The Story of America's Sidecar Dogs" is a documentary film about motorcyclists and their beloved canine co-pilots directed by Eric and Geneva Ristau, top center.

WORLD



MENA/AP

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, second from right; the Grand Sheik of al-Azhar, Ahmed el-Tayeb, right; Prime Minister Ibrahim Mehleb, third from right; and others pray in October on the first day of Eid al-Adha, or Feast of Sacrifice, in Cairo. El-Sissi opened 2015 with a dramatic call for a "revolution" in Islam, to purge the religion of extremist ideas.

Egyptian president calls for reforms to modernize Islam

The Associated Press

CAIRO — Egypt's president opened the new year with a dramatic call for a "revolution" in Islam to reform interpretations of the faith entrenched for hundreds of years, which he said have made the Muslim world a source of "destruction" and pitted it against the rest of the world.

The speech was Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi's boldest effort yet to position himself as a modernizer of Islam. His professed goal is to purge the religion of extremist ideas of intolerance and violence that fuel groups like al-Qaida and the Islamic State — and lie behind Tuesday's attack in Paris on a French satirical newspaper that killed 12 people.

But those looking for the "Muslim Martin Luther" bringing a radical Reformation of Islam may be overreaching — and making a false comparison to begin with. El-Sissi is clearly seeking to impose change through the state, using government religious institutions like the 1,000-year-old al-Azhar, one of the most eminent centers of Sunni Muslim thought and teaching.

Al-Azhar's vision for change, however, is piecemeal and conservative, focusing on messaging and outreach but wary of addressing deeper and controversial issues.

In an ambitious effort, religious school textbooks are under review.

Al-Azhar official Mohie Eddin Afifi said texts outlining rules for slavery, for instance, have been removed.

For decades, al-Azhar has lost credibility in the eyes of many Muslim youth who see it as mouthpiece of the state rather than an honest interpreter of religion. More appealing to some young men and women searching for identity in a rapidly changing world are calls for a return to the roots of the faith, including from the extremists of al-Qaida and the Islamic State group.

In his Jan. 1 speech at al-Azhar addressing Muslim clerics — held to mark the Prophet Muhammad's birthday — el-Sissi called on them to promote a reading of Islamic texts in a "truly enlightened" manner to reconsider concepts "that have been made sacred over hundreds of years."

By such thinking, the Islamic world is "making enemies of the whole world. ... We need a religious revolution."

Radicals — and el-Sissi's Islamist political opponents who have wide religious followings — angrily denounced el-Sissi, saying he was trying to corrupt the religion. Even secularists, who would normally promote a more modern interpretation of Islam, frowned at el-Sissi's statist approach to such a complicated issue.

Affifi told The Associated Press

that el-Sissi didn't mean changing texts — something even el-Sissi quickly made clear in his speech.

"What the president meant is that we need a contemporary reading for religious texts to deal with our contemporary reality," said Afifi, who is secretary general of the Islamic Research Center. The center is an al-Azhar body responsible for studying Islamic issues and for providing preachers to explain religious affairs to the police, military, schools, government and private companies. It is also responsible for censorship.

He said al-Azhar has already been working for months on such a campaign, following calls for modernizing the faith that el-Sissi has been making since his May presidential election campaign. Committees have been examining textbooks used in the large network of schools that al-Azhar runs to remove things that have "no place in modern life." Texts on slavery and on refusing to greet Christians and Jews, for example, have been removed.

There is also a push to encourage a nationalism that officials see as moderating religious sentiment. El-Sissi this week attended Christmas services for Egypt's Orthodox Coptic Christians and declared that Egyptians should not view each other as Christians or Muslims but as Egyptians.

He's no Dr. Ruth, but he'll give Pakistanis advice on sex questions

By ADIL JAWAD
The Associated Press

KARACHI, Pakistan — In religiously conservative Pakistan, a television call-in advice show is tackling an issue rarely discussed in public: sex.

Once a week, a doctor appearing on HTV's "Clinic Online" focuses on sexual issues, fielding questions about sexually transmitted disease, fertility and how to deal with husbands having multiple wives in this Muslim-majority country of 180 million people.

"It wasn't an easy decision," said Faizan Syed, the CEO of HTV, a private satellite channel. "The biggest question was how society would perceive or handle it."

The answer is surprisingly well. Before the first episode aired, Syed said producers discussed every aspect of the show, including whether to air it late at night to ensure that the audience was mostly adults and not children. In the end, Syed said they decided to air it during the day when men likely would be at work and women at home alone, making it easier for them to call the show.

The show doesn't mirror the occasional salaciousness of American daytime television talk shows or the winking raunchiness of Dr. Ruth Westheimer. Instead, the Karachi-shot show aired nationwide features Dr. Nadeem Uddin Siddiqui clinically answering

questions, mainly from women calling in from villages or remote areas of the country. Many women in Pakistan don't even have a basic education, let alone a working knowledge of sex.

Most of the women ask about impotence and infertility of their partners and how to get them to go to a doctor for a consultation. One woman described how her husband would go to his second wife for sex, leaving the first wife neglected. In Islam, men are allowed to have four wives although the practice is not universally accepted.

The caller asked Siddiqui how she could fulfill her own sexual desires. Siddiqui said all he could advise her to do was to turn to religion and prayer.

During another call, a woman described how her 29-year-old single nephew was becoming sexually aggressive with the women in the house. Siddiqui advised her to take him for a psychological consultation and arrange for him to be married as soon as possible.

But even in this show there are boundaries, as it is conscious of not appearing to promote sex outside of marriage.

Dr. Meraj-ul-Huda Siddiqui, a religious scholar associated with the Islamist party Jamaat-e-Islami, who is not related to the show's host, said a television show discussing sexual problems and diseases is not against Islam. But he cautioned that the show must keep its content within the religious and social values of society.



FAREED KHAN/AP

Pakistani Dr. Nadeem Uddin Siddiqui answers sex questions from callers, mainly women, as part of "Clinic Online" on a private satellite channel in Karachi, Pakistan.

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM: A look back in photos on 13 years of war

View the exclusive photos from

STARS AND STRIPES

at www.stripes.com/afghanphotos



FAITH

“It’s like a cake. Showing all the layers of Jerusalem.”



PHOTOS BY RUTH EGLASH/The Washington Post

Archaeologists dug through seven layers of Jerusalem history inside the Kisile, a former Turkish prison that sits next to the Tower of David Museum, revealing the foundations of Roman Emperor Herod's grand palace — and possibly the site of Jesus' trial. The site is open to visitors.

By RUTH EGLASH
The Washington Post

It started 15 years ago with plans to expand the Tower of David Museum in Jerusalem. But the story took a strange turn when archaeologists started peeling away layers under the floor in an old abandoned building adjacent to the museum in Jerusalem's Old City.

They knew it had been used as a prison when the Ottoman Turks and then the British ruled these parts. But, as they carefully dug down, they eventually uncovered something extraordinary: the suspected remains of the palace where one of the more famous scenes of the New Testament might have taken place — the trial of Jesus.

Now, after years of excavation and a further delay caused by wars and a lack of funds, the archaeologists' precious find is being shown to the public through tours organized by the museum.

The prison "is a great part of the ancient puzzle of Jerusalem and shows the history of this city in a very unique and clear way," said Amit Re'em, the Jerusalem district archaeologist, who headed the excavation team more than a decade ago.

For Re'em, the building has yielded a trove of thrilling discoveries from across the centuries — symbols etched into old jail walls by prisoners from the Jewish resistance fighting to create the state of Israel in the

UNCOVERED

Archaeologists find possible site of Jesus' trial

1940s, fabric-dyeing basins from Crusader times and the foundation walls and an underground sewage system that probably underpinned the sprawling palace built by eccentric Roman Emperor Herod the Great.

But for the more than 1 million Christian pilgrims who visit Jerusalem each year, the site is especially significant because it could have been an important place in the life of their savior.

"For those Christians who care about accuracy in regards to historical facts, this is very powerful," said Yisca Harani, an expert on Christianity and pilgrimage to the Holy Land. "For others, however, those who come for the general mental exercise of being in Jerusalem, they don't care as long as [their journey] ends in 'Golgotha' — the site of the crucifixion."

Today, many Christian pilgrims to Jerusalem walk the Stations of the Cross, or Via Dolorosa, taking them from where it is believed Roman procurator Pontius Pilate held the trial and sentenced Jesus

to death, to where Jesus was eventually crucified and buried.

Harani said that since pilgrims started making their way to Jerusalem centuries ago, the route of Via Dolorosa has changed several times, depending on who was ruling the city at the time and what they deemed important.

In the Byzantine period, for example, the Via Dolorosa began closer to the area where the museum now sits in the western part of the city. It was only after the 13th century that the starting point moved to the Antonia Fortress, the site of a former Roman military barracks, which today sits beneath a school close to the al-Aqsa Mosque and the golden Dome of the Rock.

The debate over the site of the trial continues among Christian spiritual leaders, historians and archaeologists. Questions about the location stem from various interpretations of the Gospels, which describe how Jesus of Nazareth was brought before Pilate in the praetorium, a Latin term for a general's tent within a

Roman encampment. Some say Pilate's praetorium would have been in the military barracks; others say the Roman general would probably have been a guest in the palace built by Herod.

Today, historians and archaeologists are certain that Herod's palace was on the city's western side, where the Tower of David Museum and the Ottoman-era prison now stand.

For Shimon Gibson, an archaeology professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, there is little doubt that the trial occurred somewhere within Herod's palace compound. In the Gospel of John, the trial is described as taking place near a gate and on a bumpy stone pavement — details that fit with previous archaeological findings near the prison, he said.

"There is, of course, no inscription stating it happened here, but everything — archaeological, historical and gospel accounts — all falls into place and makes sense," Gibson said.

So, now that it is open to the public, could the prison become a new holy site for Christian pilgrims or even change the path of the Via Dolorosa?

"I don't think that will happen anytime soon," said the Rev. David Pileggi, the minister of Christ Church, also an Anglican guesthouse and heritage center near the museum. "What makes a place holy is the fact that people have gone there for hundreds of years, prayed, cried and even celebrated there, so I don't think there will be changes to the route anytime soon — but the prison does give us a clearer explanation of Jerusalem's history."

In the Tower of David Museum, named for the medieval citadel in which it sits, director Eilat Lieber hopes the prison will eventually become a standard attraction for Christians. Museum officials have already started working with tour guides versed in Christian history who can explain the significance of the remaining rugged walls and carefully carved tunnels underneath.

"We will continue to develop the prison for visitors," said Lieber, previously the museum's educational director. Although that dream has still to materialize, Lieber is delighted that the prison, with its layers of history, will give all visitors a better understanding of the past.

"It's like a cake," she said. "Showing all the layers of Jerusalem."

FACES

At Golden Globes, anything is possible

By RAFER GUZMAN
Newsday

At Sunday's Golden Globes, the biggest front-runners also are the least likely. One is "Birdman," starring Michael Keaton as a fondly remembered but somewhat faded Hollywood star, playing a version of himself. The other is Richard Linklater's "Boyhood," which follows an unknown Texas kid (Ellar Coltrane) for more than 10 years as he grows into a man before our eyes. Neither seem like the usual Globe contenders — they're not glossy biopics or message movies — yet they're leading the competition. "Birdman" has seven nominations, more than any other movie, while "Boyhood" has five.

Will these two worthy movies win? Given the often unpredictable Hollywood Foreign Press Association, the mysterious group of journalists who bestow the awards, anything is possible. And while the Globes are an imperfect predictor of the Oscars, tonight's winners will go into the Academy Awards six weeks from now looking that much stronger.

A "Birdman" win seems an easy call, partly because it's nominated for best comedy or musical, a category that allows the Globes to honor overlooked genres. Wes Anderson's "The Grand Budapest Hotel" could contend, but "Birdman" already has accolades from many other critics groups.

The tougher call is "Boyhood," which is up for best dramatic picture, the Globes' equivalent of the best-picture Oscar. "Boyhood" might



come across as a small-scale family drama, but its making was a heroic undertaking, filmed for a few days each year with largely the same cast. It's a decade-spanning epic that not even the most epic-minded directors have ever previously achieved. Could the Globes wave that aside?

They certainly could, and that probably would mean a win for "The Imitation Game," which also has five nominations. This compelling film stars Benedict Cumberbatch as British mathematician Alan Turing. If Cumberbatch wins for best dramatic actor, he'll head into the Oscars with an almost unstoppable momentum.

The same goes for best dramatic actress, where Julianne Moore, giving an impeccable performance as an Alzheimer's victim in "Still Alice," seems the clear front-runner.

What all this spells for the Oscars remains to be seen when nominations are announced Thursday. For now, the only truly safe prediction is that Globes co-hosts Tina Fey and Amy Poehler will make jokes about tipsy celebrities.

Tina Fey, left and Amy Poehler will host the 72nd Annual Golden Globe Awards on Sunday. They will air the next day on AFN.

NBC

Neil deGrasse Tyson getting his own late-night show

From wire reports

America's favorite astrophysicist is coming to late night.

Neil deGrasse Tyson will host the National Geographic Channel's first ever late-night talk show featuring pop culture personalities and science commentary from people like Tyson's buddy, Bill Nye.

There's no word yet on what the intro will look like, but you can bet if it involves a model of the Earth spinning on its axis, the thing will be turning in the right direction. So, take that, Jon Stewart!

"Star Talk," based on Tyson's podcast of the same name, will premiere in April. Tyson made the announcement at the Television Critics Association's winter press tour in Pasadena, Calif., on Wednesday. The show will start at the Hayden Planetarium in New York City where Tyson serves as director.

"Cosmos" allowed us to share the awesome power of the universe with a global audience in ways that we never thought possible," Tyson said in a statement. "To be able to continue to spread wonder and excitement through 'Star Talk,' which is a true passion project for me, is beyond exciting. And National Geographic Channel is the perfect home as we continue to explore the universe."

Tyson had a massive hit when he revived Carl Sagan's "Cosmos" last year. The first episode of "Star Talk" will be

accompanied by a one-hour special commemorating the Hubble telescope's 25th year orbiting Earth. Tyson will host "Hubble's Cosmic Journey," too.

Cosby returns to stage

Bill Cosby said he had a "wonderful time" and got a standing ovation from polite Canadian fans at his first show following a string of cancellations in the wake of sexual assault allegations from more than 15 women.

But outside protesters braved below-freezing weather to shame the ticket-holders as they streamed in.

Cosby's show in Kitchener was his first show since November when the entertainer saw at least 10 performances get canceled on his North American tour. Like his last show in Melbourne, Fla., on Nov. 21 there were no disruptions during the performance and the crowd laughed throughout.

Cosby climbed the stage decorated with two giant posters of him with Nelson Mandela. "First of all thank you," Cosby said to the audience before starting his routine with some cold weather jokes.

He left to a standing ovation that was somewhat slow to start. "Dear Fans: I would like to personally thank you for giving me the opportunity to bring laughter back into your lives tonight. Also, I would like to applaud all of you and give you a

standing ovation for respecting yourselves, the theatre (Centre In The Square) and the event organizers that produced a spectacular show for the Kitchener Community," Cosby said in a statement issued by his publicist following the show.

'Big Bang,' Downey win awards

Robert Downey Jr. was seeing double at the People's Choice Awards.

The star of "The Judge" and "Iron Man" picked up the trophies for favorite dramatic movie actor and favorite movie actor at Wednesday's fan-favorite ceremony at the Nokia Theater in Los Angeles honoring stars in film, television and music.

"This is perfect for me because I love people, I'm crazy about movies, and I prefer people who love my movies," Downey said.

"The Big Bang Theory" also won multiple honors. The sitcom about a group of scientists was awarded trophies for favorite network TV comedy and favorite TV show, while co-star Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting was chosen as favorite comedic TV actress.

Missa McCarthy was honored as favorite comedic movie actress, while Adam Sandler was selected as favorite comedic movie actor. Iggy Azalea was deemed favorite hip-hop artist, while Lady Antebellum were crowned favorite country group.



RICHARD SHOTTELL, INVISION/AP

Neil deGrasse Tyson — in Pasadena, Calif., on Wednesday — will soon be on late-night TV.

"Grey's Anatomy" star Ellen Pompeo accepted the awards for both favorite dramatic TV actress and favorite network TV drama.

Actor, fiancée expecting

There's good news — again — from "Sherlock" star Benedict Cumberbatch. The actor and theater director Sophie Hunter announced in November that they were engaged. Now the couple says they are expecting their first baby.

Cumberbatch's spokeswoman, Karon Maskill, confirmed the news in a brief statement Wednesday, saying "they are both over the moon."

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

State looks at turning roadkill into compost

VA WINDSOR — The Virginia Department of Transportation is working to turn highway carcasses into plant food.

The state agency is testing the practice of turning roadkill into compost at four sites across the state, using a special system that accelerates decomposition and suppresses odors.

The Virginian-Pilot reported the system costs \$140,000 and can break down animals in as little as six weeks in concrete bins.

The compost is then used to control erosion and help establish grass after construction.

Officials said roadkill collected by the agency is traditionally buried or driven to landfills at a cost of \$4 million a year for disposal.

Police: Man with baby assisted in burglary

FL ST. PETERSBURG — Police say a Florida man carrying his 5-month-old son acted as a lookout while his friend tried to break into a house, then threatened the owner of the home with a knife.

St. Petersburg Police said in a news release that a homeowner found Corey Mathews, 22, outside his home Monday, holding a baby in a car carrier.

Police said that when Mathews spotted the homeowner, he alerted another suspect attempting to break into the home. The other suspect fled, and the homeowner called 911 as he followed Mathews. Mathews then pulled out a knife and threatened to kill the man if he kept following him, police allege.

Mathews was being held on \$15,000 bond on burglary and other charges.

Bigfoot post makes big imprint on social media

AZ PHOENIX — An Arizona agency's posting about Bigfoot is leaving its mark on social media.

The Arizona Department of Transportation Facebook post from Jan. 1 reads: "We might have spotted a family of sasquatches on SR 260 near Heber this afternoon. What do you think?"

Accompanying it is a couple of traffic camera photos showing a blurry cluster of figures on the side of the road.

As of Wednesday, it had been shared more than 677 times and had more than 1,300 comments.

The mysterious figures hadn't budged in days, leading transportation spokesman Tom Herrmann to believe they're something a lot more down-to-Earth than the original post suggests: shrubbery.

At med school, 'Seinfeld' about more than nothing

NJ NEW BRUNSWICK — "Seinfeld" may have been a show about nothing, but a psychiatry professor is using it for much more than that.

NJ.com reported that medical student at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital are learn-

THE CENSUS

\$10



The amount musician Ben MacSpadden charges for a Uni-Gram — a message and a song, delivered while wearing a unicorn head. MacSpadden, 28, can often be seen in his mask (at Christmas he adds an ugly sweater to the get-up) playing at venues around Walla Walla, Wash., or busking downtown. Though he started his business for the holidays, he sees no reason to stop now. This unicorn will be for hire as long as there's demand. "The reaction was immediate and amazing," he said. "Folks were taken completely off guard. I could almost see people's thoughts sliding from 'What's going on? Is this really happening?' to 'Hey, this guy's pretty good.'"



GERALD HERBERT/AP

Laissez les bons temps rouler

Members of the Plummy Phorty Phellows toss beads during their night of revelry aboard a streetcar in New Orleans on Tuesday, King's Day is a tradition marking the 12th night after Christmas and the official start of the Mardi season. Carnival is celebrated along the Gulf Coast with parties, balls and parades culminating on Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, a final day of celebration before Lent. Mardi Gras falls on Feb. 17 this year.

ing about psychiatric disorders through Dr. Anthony Tobia's "Psy-feld" teaching tool.

Tobia has created a database of teaching points from all 180 episodes. Third- and fourth-year medical students are assigned to watch two episodes a week and then gather to discuss the psychopathology demonstrated on each. Tobia diagnoses Jerry Seinfeld's character as obsessive compulsive, George Costanza as egocentric and Kramer as schizoid. He says Elaine is unable to forge meaningful relationships and Newman was "very sick."

Inflatable-Santa slasher caught on surveillance

NH CONCORD — For the second year in a row, someone has slashed a decorative inflatable Santa Claus on a homeowner's lawn in New Hampshire — although this time, it was caught on camera.

Police said the foot-long-plus slash across Santa's body was reported Dec. 27. The man living at the house in Concord said he in-

stalled the surveillance camera because a similar decoration was slashed in 2013.

On the video, released Monday by police, a man is seen walking from Ridge Road into the front yard to the Santa. He makes a swiping motion with his right hand, cutting the Santa with some type of blade, before walking away.

College to offer video gaming scholarships

KY PIKEVILLE — A private liberal arts college in Kentucky says it will make video games an official sport and start offering scholarships to gamers in the fall.

The move makes the University of Pikeville one of only a few schools in the nation to provide scholarships to those who play "League of Legends," a multiplayer online battle arena game, according to WYMT-TV.

"It's actually becoming a worldwide trend," said Bruce Parsons, Pikeville's new media director. "This game is five-on-five com-

petitive play. It takes skill, practice and a lot of teamwork."

Pikeville plans to offer 20 scholarships when it begins "League of Legends" competition play in the fall.

"It will be a regime a lot like athletics," Parsons said. "They'll have to have a certain GPA. We'll look at them like student athletes."

Turkeys euthanized at gated golf community

SC HILTON HEAD ISLAND — State officials have euthanized 18 wild turkeys that roamed a gated golf course community in Beaufort County after determining they weren't native Eastern wild turkeys.

The Island Packet of Hilton Head Island reported that residents of The Crescent in Bluffton complain as many as 100 turkeys are being a nuisance, including chasing cars down streets and pecking windows. The state Department of Natural Resources originally planned to relocate the birds to Daufuskie Island.

But agency biologist Jay Cantrell

said their aggressive behavior and abnormal coloring made them unfit for relocation. He said officials suspect the turkeys were bred with pen-raised turkeys at some point, raising concerns they could weaken the genetic line of "true" native wild turkeys.

\$50K bail for accused brain-cancer faker

UT LOGAN — Bail has been set at \$50,000 for a woman who police say faked brain cancer and forged medical documents to raise money.

The Herald Journal of Logan reported that Lesley Jensen, of Nibley, made her first appearance in Utah's First Judicial District Court on Tuesday.

She faces nine felony counts of fraud and forgery. Prosecutors say she convinced friends, family, co-workers and charitable organizations that she had advanced stage brain cancer.

Authorities say Jensen likely raised thousands or tens of thousands of dollars.

From wire reports

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Stocks end run of losses as oil steadies

By MATTHEW CRAFT
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Encouraging economic news and a rare rise in oil prices helped give the stock market its first gain in the new year Wednesday.

Major indexes started climbing from the opening bell, following a report from ADP, the payroll processor, which showed that businesses hired more workers last month. Companies added 241,000 workers in December, an increase

from the previous month.

The increase offered more evidence that the U.S. economy is on steady ground and gave investors another reason to jump back into the market after five straight days of losses, said Jeff Kravetz, regional investment director at U.S. Bank Wealth Management.

All three major U.S. indexes climbed more than 1 percent. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 23.29 points to close at 2,025.90.

The Dow Jones industrial aver-

age rose 212.88 points to 17,584.52, and the Nasdaq composite gained 57.73 points to 4,650.47.

Before Wednesday, falling oil prices and concerns about the global economy had knocked the S&P 500 down 2.7 percent, its worst start to a year since 2008. The recent turbulence is likely just a pause in the stock market's steady run, said Michael Arone, chief investment strategist at State Street Global Advisors.

"It's perfectly normal market activity," Arone said. "Things

tend not to go up or down in a straight line."

Major markets in Europe also ended higher for the first time this week. Germany's DAX closed with a gain of 0.5 percent and France's CAC-40 rose 0.7 percent. Britain's FTSE 100 advanced 0.8 percent.

The price of oil stabilized near a six-year low. U.S. crude oil rose 72 cents to close at \$48.65 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The gain was only the second in nine trading days.

EUROPE GAS PRICES

Country	Super E10	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Germany	\$2.517	\$2.740	\$2.834	\$3.440
Change in price	-22.4 cents	-15.3 cents	-10.2 cents	-7.6 cents
Netherlands	--	\$3.499	\$3.752	\$3.722
Change in price	--	-10.3 cents	-11.3 cents	-10.8 cents
U.K.	--	\$2.710	\$2.904	\$3.010
Change in price	--	-8 cents	-8.2 cents	-7.6 cents
Azores	--	--	\$3.686	--
Change in price	--	--	no change	--
Turkey	--	\$2.421	\$3.347	\$2.950
Change in price	--	-66.3 cents	-67.3 cents	-37.5 cents
Italy	--	--	\$3.618	\$3.755*
Change in price	--	--	-20.3 cents	-47.4 cents
Italy	\$3.974	--	--	\$4.050
Change in price	-26.5 cents	--	--	-22.7 cents

PACIFIC GAS PRICES

Country	Unleaded	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Japan	--	\$2.719	--	\$3.299
Change in price	--	-8.0 cents	--	-8.0 cents
Okinawa	\$2.419	--	--	\$3.219
Change in price	-12.0 cents	--	--	-8.0 cents
South Korea	\$2.339	\$2.759	\$2.759	\$3.259
Change in price	-9.0 cents	--	-8.0 cents	-8.0 cents
Guam	\$2.329**	\$2.549	\$2.749	--
Change in price	-9.0 cents	-8.0 cents	-8.0 cents	--

*Diesel EFD **Midgrade

For the week of Jan. 10-16

MARKET WATCH

Jan. 7, 2015

Dow Jones

Industrials

212.88

17,584.52

Nasdaq

composite

57.73

4,650.47

Standard &

Poor's 500

23.29

2,025.90

Russell

2000

14.66

1,175.97

EXCHANGE RATES

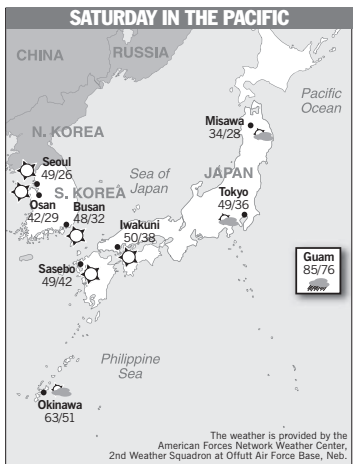
Military rates		
Euro costs (Jan. 9)	\$1.2121	
Dollar buys (Jan. 9)	\$0.8250	
British pound (Jan. 9)	\$1.54	
Japanese yen (Jan. 9)	\$116.00	
South Korean won (Jan. 9)	1,073.00	
Commercial rates		
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770	
British pound	\$1.5085/0.6629	
Canada (dollar)	1.1819	
China (Yuan)	6.2114	
Denmark (Krone)	6.3075	
Euro (Pound)	7.4495	
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$1.1795/0.8478	
Hungary (Forint)	268.74	
Israel (Shekel)	3.9546	
Japan (Yen)	119.53	
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2942	
Norway (Krone)	7.6583	
Philippines (Peso)	44.94	
Poland (Zloty)	3.266	
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7544	
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3385	
South Korea (Won)	1,096.99	
Switzerland (Franc)	1.0182	
Thailand (Baht)	32.86	
Turkey (New Lira)	2.3033	

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, which keep their local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	4.00
Federal funds market rate	0.01
3-month bill	0.03
30-year bond	2.53

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Friday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chatanooga	36	16	Pcidy	Fort Wayne	7	-7	Snow	Louisville	20	6	Pcidy	Pocatello	40	24	Cid	Sloux City	8	-12	Cir
Ablene, Tex	31	21	Cid	Cheney	23	17	Cid	Fresno	61	44	Cid	Lubbock	29	18	Snow	Portland, Maine	30	11	Snow	Sioux Falls	4	-13	Cir
Albany, N.Y.	30	16	Cid	Chicago	4	-6	Cid	Goodland	22	13	Pcidy	Macon	45	23	Pcidy	Portland, Ore.	48	38	Cid	South Bend	7	-6	Cir
Albuquerque	40	26	Pcidy	Cincinnati	16	2	Cid	Grand Junction	40	22	Pcidy	Madison	37	8	Cir	Providence	33	16	Snow	Spokane	31	25	Cid
Allentown, Pa.	29	8	Snow	Cleveland	16	-1	Snow	Grand Rapids	11	4	Snow	Medford	55	35	Cid	Pueblo	24	12	Snow	Springfield, Ill.	9	0	Cir
Amarillo	39	16	Cid	Colorado Springs	24	21	Snow	Great Falls	21	19	Cid	Mempis	30	15	Cir	Raleigh-Durham	41	19	Pcidy	Springfield, Mo.	20	4	Cir
Amarillo	39	16	Cid	Columbia, S.C.	45	24	Pcidy	Green Bay	9	11	Snow	Miami Beach	77	62	Cid	Rapid City	14	3	Cir	Syracuse	23	9	Snow
Anchorage	36	29	Cid	Columbia, Ohio	45	24	Pcidy	Greensboro, N.C.	40	18	Cir	Midland-Odessa	28	22	Cid	Reno	55	28	Pcidy	Tallahassee	54	30	Cid
Asheville	35	15	Pcidy	Columbus, Ohio	14	-3	Cid	Hartford	28	7	Cid	Milwaukee	3	-7	Cir	Richmond	40	17	Pcidy	Tampa	66	45	Cid
Atlanta	39	20	Cid	Concord, N.H.	27	7	Snow	Hartford Springfield	26	12	Snow	Mpls-St Paul	2	-8	Cir	Rio Rancho	34	14	Pcidy	Toledo	13	-1	Cid
Atlantic City	36	12	Cir	Corpus Christi	47	36	Rain	Harrisburg	25	19	Cid	Missoula	26	17	Cid	Rochester	19	10	Snow	Topeka	18	3	Cir
Austin	32	12	Snow	Dallas-Ft. Worth	34	25	Cid	Honolulu	80	61	Pcidy	Montpelier	66	49	Cid	Rockford	3	-9	Cid	Wichita	24	7	Snow
Baltimore	34	12	Cid	Dayton	11	-5	Cid	Houston	39	34	Cid	Montgomery	44	22	Pcidy	Sacramento	60	42	Cid	Tulsa	25	10	Cir
Baton Rouge	43	27	Cid	Daytona Beach	63	46	Cid	Huntsville	37	16	Cir	Nashville	28	11	Pcidy	St. Louis	17	8	Cir	Tupelo	34	15	Cir
Billings	19	14	Pcidy	Denver	16	0	Snow	Indianapolis	9	-3	Cir	New Orleans	45	32	Cid	St. Petersburg	46	30	Cid	Waco	34	27	Cir
Birmingham	40	18	Cir	Des Moines	6	-5	Cir	Jackson, Miss.	44	22	Cid	New York City	31	14	Snow	St. Thomas	86	76	Pcidy	Washington	35	16	Cid
Blackrock	5	-13	Cir	Detroit	16	0	Snow	Jacksonville	50	34	Cid	Newark	33	14	Snow	St. Thomas	86	76	Pcidy	W. Palm Beach	75	61	Cid
Boise	37	29	Cid	Duluth	-12	-12	Cir	Janeau	37	28	Cid	Norfolk, Va.	43	24	Pcidy	Salt Lake City	43	29	Cir	Wichita	20	8	Cir
Boston	29	16	Snow	El Paso	40	28	Cid	Kansas City	15	2	Cir	North Platte	16	2	Cir	San Antonio	31	25	Cid	Wichita Falls	33	17	Pcidy
Bridgport	32	12	Snow	Elkins	18	-1	Snow	Key West	76	66	Cid	Oklahoma City	28	14	Pcidy	San Antonio	66	41	Snow	Wilkes-Barre	24	7	Snow
Brownsville	46	43	Rain	Erie	18	7	Snow	Lake Charles	32	14	Pcidy	Omaha	10	-5	Cir	San Diego	66	53	Cid	Wilmington, Del.	32	12	Cid
Burlington	19	9	Snow	Eugene	46	38	Cid	Lakeview	37	30	Cid	Orlando	68	48	Cid	San Francisco	61	50	Pcidy	Yakima	35	28	Cid
Burlington, Vt.	27	8	Snow	Evansville	17	6	Pcidy	Lansing	13	1	Snow	Paducah	22	8	Pcidy	San Jose	46	30	Pcidy	Youngstown	16	-2	Snow
Caribou, Maine	18	2	Cir	Fairbanks	10	1	Cir	Las Vegas	66	46	Cid	Pendleton	34	29	Cid	Santa Fe	38	21	Cid				
Charleston, S.C.	27	22	Pcidy	Fargo	10	-12	Cid	Lexington	21	4	Pcidy	Peoria	6	37	Cir	St. Marie	3	-3	Snow				
Charleston, S.C.	48	29	Pcidy	Flagstaff	45	29	Cid	Lincoln	13	-2	Cir	Philadelphia	31	13	Cid	Savannah	50	29	Pcidy				
Charlotte, W.Va.	25	8	Cid	Flint	13	-2	Snow	Little Rock	33	16	Pcidy	Phoenix	71	52	Cid	Seattle	49	41	Cid				
Charlotte, N.C.	42	20	Cir	Fort Smith	30	14	Cir	Los Angeles	70	52	Cid	Pittsburgh	17	0	Cid	Shreveport	42	26	Cid				

National temperature extremes

Hi: Wed., 87, Fillmore, Calif.
Lo: Wed., -30, 13 miles northeast of
Chattanooga, Tenn.

National temperature extremes

Hi: Wed., 87, Fillmore, Calif.
Lo: Wed., -30, 13 miles north of Poplar, Mont.

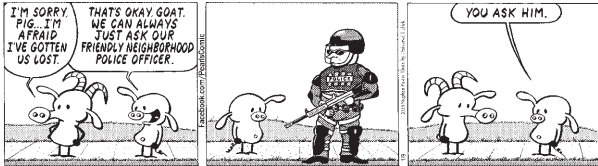
Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



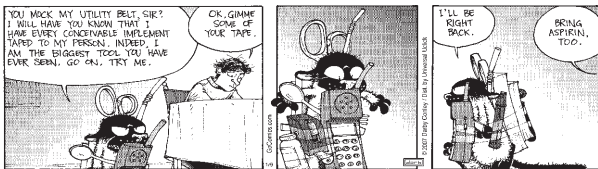
Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



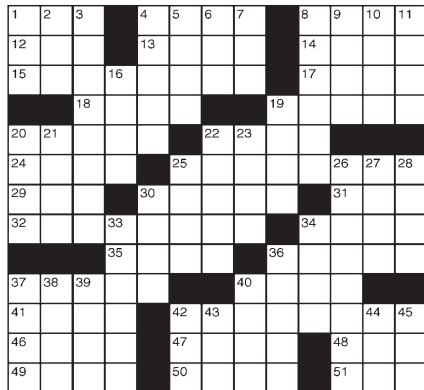
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Bonfire residue
- 4 Information
- 8 Close
- 12 Dance syllable
- 13 Open slightly
- 14 Corporate art-work
- 15 Skier's turning maneuver
- 17 Bygone, to Burns
- 18 Bobcat cousin
- 19 Tart, and then some
- 20 Domesticates
- 22 Prepare for a trip
- 24 Geological periods
- 25 Folksy
- 29 Atmosphere
- 30 Refuges
- 31 Raw rock
- 32 Redo
- 34 On the briny
- 35 Tarzan's pals
- 36 Perfume ingredient
- 37 Boscs and Bartlets
- 40 "Here to Eternity"
- 41 "Go brag!"
- 42 Web surfer's shortcut
- 46 Broad
- 47 Places
- 48 — Speedwagon
- 49 Start a garden

DOWN

- 1 Performance
- 2 That woman
- 3 Distinguishing characteristic
- 4 Denounces
- 5 Trojan War hero
- 6 Pitch
- 7 Biblical boat
- 8 Casual trousers
- 9 Session with a shrink
- 10 Wrinkly fruit
- 11 Lincoln in-law
- 16 Spuds' buds
- 19 Dogfight fighters
- 20 Squad
- 21 La Scala showstopper
- 22 Sits for a photog
- 23 U.S.
- 25 Own
- 26 Stamp canceler
- 27 Ammonia compound
- 28 Approach
- 30 "My bad"
- 33 Deserved
- 34 Teeny particle
- 36 Alan of "Little Miss Sunshine"
- 37 Cathedral seats
- 38 Pennsylvania port
- 39 Staffer
- 40 Centers of attention
- 42 Sandwich initials
- 43 Fireworks reaction
- 44 Outdoor gear retailer
- 45 "—Tiki"

Answer to Previous Puzzle



1-9

CRYPTOQUIP

L WHYVIG HT SGM CQFFQMF
RELOEGC KLUQMF L EQTT,
PYE QE LPOYVEIJ EYOMGC

QMEH L RKHUGIQMF SLEWK.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT MY VISITOR IS THE BETTER-BEHAVED ONE? YOUR GUEST IS AS GOOD AS MINE!
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals T

STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
Richard Braun, General Manager, Europe
Lt. Col. Michael C. Bailey, Europe commander
Lt. Col. Brian Choate, Pacific commander
Terry M. Wegner, Pacific Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
leonard.terry@stripes.com
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
reid.robert@stripes.com
Sam Amrhein, Managing Editor International
amrhein.sam@stripes.com
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content
croley.tina@stripes.com
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
moores.sean@stripes.com
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital
gromelski.joe@stripes.com

EUROPE STAFF

Europe/Mideast
Teddie Weyr, Europe & Mideast Chief
weyrteddie@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9310 cell
+49(0)131.375.1181; DSN (314)583.9310
Pacific
Paul Alexander, Pacific Bureau Chief
alexander.paul@stripes.com
+81-3-0885.5377; cell (080)583.1673
DSN (315)225.5377

Washington
Patrick Dickson, Washington Bureau Chief
dickson.patrick@stripes.com
+1(202)761.0908; DSN (312)763.0908
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
bowers.brian@stripes.com
Amanda Trypanis, Design Desk Supervisor
trypanis.amanda@stripes.com

CONTACT US

Washington
tel: +1(202)761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;
fax: +1(202)761.0890
529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC
20045-1301

Reader letters
letters@stripes.com

Additional contacts
stripes.com/contactus

OMBUSMAN

Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stripes.com, or by phone at 202.761.0587.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 31) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a result, the contents of Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for publication or reprinting in those areas overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or distribution without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2014

stripes.com

OPINION

Bratton has to reinvent policing again

By DAVID IGNATIUS

When William J. Bratton was appointed to his second stint as New York police commissioner by Mayor Bill de Blasio in late 2013, he said he wanted every New Yorker to think of the force as their police. Now, a year later, some of Bratton's officers are turning their backs on the mayor of a city where many residents are furious at the cops.

The spirit of police-community partnership has been badly damaged in New York and across the country. But the best model for how to heal the racial and political divide is Bratton's own experience fixing broken police departments in New York and Los Angeles.

The strands of New York's police crisis are tangled with local and national politics, and with America's racial problems. But Bratton doesn't have to perform miracles now, any more than he did when he became commissioner in a frightened and polarized New York in 2002, or when he became commissioner in 2002 in a Los Angeles still grappling with the tensions that exploded in the Rodney King beating a decade before.

Bratton has not been as good at explaining his methods as they're a good deal more complicated than the "broken windows" and "stop and frisk" concepts that have become a shorthand for his approach. In the current mess, he could do worse than study his own record.

A starting point for Bratton's re-invention might be "What We've Learned About Policing," an article he wrote in *City Journal* in 1999 with William Andrews, his former special assistant, about the first NYPD stint. Bratton described his challenge then as motivating a disoriented, ill-managed department: "Like the corporate CEOs of that era, we began with a large, unfocused, inward-looking, bureaucratic organization, poor at internal communication or cooperation and chronically unresponsive to intelligence from the outer world." Critics would say that description



SETH WENIG/AP

New York City Police Commissioner William J. Bratton led the Los Angeles police between his stints in New York.

applies similarly to today's NYPD.

Bratton began in 1994 by framing a plan of action that pulled 400 recommendations from dispirited precinct and unit commanders, lieutenants and sergeants, as well as the police union — then as now a power that had to be reckoned with. The proposals included new uniforms, improved training, better discipline and a serious internal affairs department. Perhaps most important, power was devolved to the precinct commanders.

Bratton's culture of accountability was also driven by technology. New computerized crime statistics, gathered and mapped in a database known as CompStat, allowed Bratton and his commanders to see precisely where crime was in the city and go after it. By stopping and frisking suspects of even minor crimes, Bratton made it much more risky for people to carry guns — with the result that gun homicides fell sharply, by 30 percent or more. This aggressive policing may have been carried too far, but at the time it was empowering for New Yorkers from every community. For a city where it had seemed that criminal gangs and drug dealers had the upper hand, the balance had been switched. Good policing is, almost by definition, community policing. ...

Bratton's challenge when he became

commissioner in Los Angeles was, if anything, even harder. The story is recounted in another *City Journal* article, "The LAPD Remade," written by John Buntin in 2013. Many black and Latino residents had come to see the LAPD as an occupying army. The brutality that surfaced in the video of the Rodney King beating was part of the culture that Bratton had to change.

Bratton reformed some of the tough-guy procedures of the LAPD and began working with the city's black leadership. He reached out to the sharpest critics, such as John Mack of the Urban League, who later joined an official oversight body called the Board of Police Commissioners. And he began changing the racial composition of the force so that it looked more like urban Los Angeles.

This management approach worked for Bratton in Los Angeles, as it had in New York. By 2007, his final year, violent crime had declined 54 percent from where it was in 2002. But in 2012, Bratton announced that 83 percent of Los Angeles residents rated the LAPD as good or excellent.

Perhaps the clearest example of the new culture of community policing was a case recounted by Jennifer Medina in *The New York Times* last August. It noted the difference in how the new LAPD handled the fatal shooting of an unarmed black man, Ezell Ford, shortly after the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. Where Ferguson responded with paramilitary tactics, the new LAPD flooded the city with officers who reached out to local activists and community leaders. Los Angeles remained calm, where Ferguson had exploded. There was now a "bank of trust" in the community, Earl Paisyinger, an LAPD assistant chief, explained to Medina.

"The secret to the success of a community-policing program is the capabilities of patrol officers to be principals and not just in a magazine. That's the part that Bratton understands. The police chief who can be said to have reinvented policing will have to do it once more.

David Ignatius is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

Provocative art must survive terrorists' assault

By ALYSSA ROSENBERG

The Washington Post

Wednesday brought the terribly sad news that terrorists had killed 10 journalists and two French police officers at the offices of Charlie Hebdo, a French satirical magazine. Charlie Hebdo has been attacked before. Its offices were firebombed and destroyed in 2011. The magazine has a long history of publishing provocations, including cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad, among them the series that ran in a Danish newspaper in 2005.

The murders of Charlie Hebdo staff and the police who were assigned to protect them come shortly after the kerfuffle over "The Interview" subsidized in the U.S. In that case, prominent theater chains declined to screen a satirical (and very silly) movie about reporters (James Franco and Seth Rogen) who were asked by the CIA to try to kill North Korean leader Kim Jong Un (Randall Park) after hackers made vague but grandiose threats against showings of the film. The attack on Charlie Hebdo and its writers is a striking reminder that threats against artists and journalists are not abstractions. And the awkward handling of "The Interview" is an illustration of how ill-prepared we are to handle them.

Both "The Interview" and Charlie Hebdo's publication of Islamic provocations, rather than immortal works of art.

But someone has to define the boundaries of speech in a free society, and it's not always the people with the best taste and the greatest talent who feel driven to poke at the margins, seeing how far they'll stretch. You can dislike Charlie Hebdo's cartoons or the profound silliness of "The Interview" and still feel that the artists in question are doing a service to the community of which they are a part.

The responses in both France and the U.S. to threats against Charlie Hebdo and "The Interview" illustrate the conflicts in both societies over what resources it makes sense to commit to freedom of speech.

As Julian Borger and Anne Penketh reported in the *Guardian*, after Charlie Hebdo's editors decided to run more cartoons in the wake of the firebombing, a hacking and a series of death threats, "The French government had appealed to the editors not to go ahead with publication, and shut down embassies, cultural centres and schools in 20 countries out of fear of reprisals when they went ahead anyway. Riot police were also deployed to the Charlie Hebdo offices to protect it from direct attacks."

French officials may have disapproved of Charlie Hebdo's exercise of the publication's free speech rights, but the government defended the magazine anyway. Wednesday, two public servants died in the wake of those rights.

With "The Interview," President Barack Obama faced a somewhat more complicated

situation: A private company (Sony) had produced a provocation, but its commercial partners (the movie theaters that were afraid to screen the movie) were making it difficult for Sony to get that provocation in front of audiences. ...

These are difficult equations of governance and freedom; how to express respect for the beliefs of others without sanctioning attacks on those who offend those beliefs; how to extend principles to individuals and companies to courage while also protecting anyone who might suffer as a result of their actions. And as we experiment with our calculations, we reach different and unpredictable results. In the U.S., "The Interview" has inadvertently become an advertisement for a new model of movie development, netting \$31 million in online sales and rental fees. It's as much a lesson about courage as about free speech. But in France, at least 12 people are dead.

In the attacks on Charlie Hebdo and the hack of Sony Pictures, we see the costs of making provocative art and protecting the people who make and distribute it. But we shouldn't let these consequences blind us to the very high price we would pay for backing away from such a defense: a grayer, duller, smaller society, in which much milder challenges to orthodoxy and taste are met with ugliness and violence.

Alyssa Rosenberg writes The Post's Art Four Web channel covering culture and politics.

OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

Scrap college ratings system

Los Angeles Times

The Obama administration has taken on the admirable but tricky task of rating colleges based on real-life factors that might matter the most to working families. If they're going to scrape up the money for a four-year education, these families tend to worry foremost about how much it will cost, whether their children will graduate and get a job, and whether the new graduates will be able to pay off student loans. Less important to them might be what professors elsewhere think of a college, or how many applicants it rejects, factors that weight the rankings produced by various publications, most notably U.S. News & World Report.

It was obvious from the start, though, that a government ratings system would run into complications that might render it meaningless or unfair. Unfortunately, a preliminary sketch of the system, released to solicit public feedback, does little to allay those concerns.

The Education Department is rightly trying to avoid what one official called "false precision" — parsing minor variations among colleges and universities that make no real difference. As a result, it is clear so broad that the ratings would be all but meaningless. It intends to divide schools into three categories, essentially: excellent, bad and in between. Most colleges and universities would fall into the in-between category, which means that very few would receive an A or B rating. In other words, the only information families would get is that most schools are fine. That may be reassuring, but it isn't especially helpful.

It's even unclear how useful the information would be on schools with low ratings, which might turn off applicants for reasons that aren't relevant to their situation. Does the school have a low graduation rate, or does its focus on fine arts mean that graduates have trouble finding jobs soon after college? Would students intent on a career in the arts care about the latter, or figure that the less robust job market in arts is a better fit for them than one in, say, petroleum engineering?

The Obama administration has pledged to avoid simplistic comparisons that don't reveal the real value of a college education. That's to its credit, but so far the ratings appear to oversimplify complex information into comparisons of apples with oranges and bananas. Worse, administration officials are considering linking federal funding for colleges to their ratings, which would be a terrible decision. Once a college's funding depends on its graduation rate, it can simply lower its standards to the point where almost everyone obtains a degree. The administration has given this an honest try, but it would be better off abandoning the project now than creating a shallow and misleading ratings system.

Best to cut federal spending

The Oklahoman

The U.S. economy's third-quarter growth hit 5 percent, the best rate in 11 years. The improved news is whether government action played any role. For conservatives, the improved economic outlook vindicates those who've tried to rein in federal spending.

Stephen Moore, chief economist at The Heritage Foundation, makes a solid case for the economic benefits of restrained federal spending. Moore notes that the federal oil spill, expressed as a share of gross domestic product, has declined significantly.



MUSEEN MALLA/AP

A Syrian family gathers inside their tent around a stove to keep warm from the cold weather at a refugee camp in al-Majdal village, east Lebanon, on Thursday.

In 2009, federal spending equaled 24.4 percent of GDP. By 2014, it represented just 21 percent. A recent estimate suggests it fell below 20 percent in the final quarter of 2014.

Moore says this shift creates "an anti-Keynesian boost to growth, because the government is taking fewer private sector resources each month."

The spending shift is a product, in part, of the often-derided "gridlock" that's dominated the federal government since Republicans won back control of the U.S. House in 2010. President Barack Obama and congressional liberals have been thwarted in advancing many of their preferred big-spending solutions. While Republicans have also been stymied at advancing their preferred policies, Moore persuasively suggests the results of doing "nothing" have helped private-sector job creation.

But officials interviewed by The New York Times insist that increased state government spending is now "providing a small but significant increase to prosperity." Yet it's hard to buy that argument. If government spending is the solution to economic woe, no one has put that theory to the test more than Obama. During the first two years of his term, with absolute Democratic control of Congress, Obama was free to tax and spend. And he did.

When Obama was first elected, the national debt totaled \$10.6 trillion. It recently hit the \$18 trillion mark, an astounding 70 percent increase. Obama's stimulus package, enacted in his first year in office, was touted as a way to bring the economy out of its recession doldrums. Instead, post-stimulus economic growth remained consistently anemic throughout Obama's six years in office, improving significantly only in recent months. If government spending truly stimulated economic growth, we should have seen that effect years before now.

Furthermore, one of the biggest boosts to economic growth has come from the declining cost of oil and gas. That decline is the result of abundant supply provided by private-sector energy producers, including many in Oklahoma. Federal policies played virtually no role in facilitating the boom. If anything, the Obama administration has sought to stifle energy production.

The flaws of government spending as economic stimulus are also apparent in the aforementioned Times article. One of the new jobs created thanks to increased state and local government spending went to John Lynch in Naples, Fla. Lynch is one of two part-time workers the city has hired to help "trapped pelicans." The Times called the creation of those two positions "an important symbol that times were flush again."

We suspect that many people, upon reading this information, will have a different

reaction. In reality, the creation of government-funded pelican-helper positions only reinforces the fact that the private sector does a much better job than government of allocating scarce resources for maximum benefit. It also serves as another reminder that jobs "created" by government often exceed parodies of government waste.

Lawmakers must restore trust

Aiken (S.C.) Standard

American involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan has scaled down the list. Concerns over the economy have, as well.

For the past decade, these were the two most significant, long-standing issues garnering public concern in the U.S. They've been replaced, at least to some degree, by the increasingly exasperating vacuum of leadership that exists in Washington.

In a Gallup poll published on Jan. 2, Americans who were surveyed listed poor leadership in government as the most important and troubling issue in 2014, a noticeable shift in the answers given in the same poll over the past 10 years.

The dissatisfaction with government isn't anything really new. However, it's intriguing to note that as the economy shows signs of improvement and the U.S. looks to scale back operations in the Middle East, Americans are becoming more and more concerned about whether Congress, the president and even government in general can get anything done.

The U.S. clearly has serious challenges ahead of it, and while government never should be the ultimate problem solver, policymakers do have a vital role and responsibility in making sure the country stays on a steady path. Years of gridlock and inactivity in Washington have rightfully shaken the confidence of Americans when it comes to fulfilling that duty.

Both sides have been at fault. The mishandled rollout of the Affordable Care Act by President Barack Obama and his administration certainly contributed to confidence levels diminishing. The failures of the Department of Veterans Affairs and its inability to properly take care of American veterans was certainly an eye-opener. The uncovering of the NSA's secretive and dubious surveillance of Americans had to add to that slippage, as well.

Obviously, however, polls such as these are just a snapshot of the moment. The upcoming term in Congress should offer a number of chances to at least partially restore some of that faith in government.

Additionally, the positive economic news of the year's end — with job growth, lower gas prices and a strong stock market — thankfully show that it's not all doom and gloom ahead of us. Moving forward, however, we have to do a lot more of bipartisan movement among federal law-

makers for confidence in government to start to trickle upward. Let's hope there's a healthy appetite for consensus and progress on the part of national leadership in the year ahead. Otherwise, the chance at a rosier future for the U.S. turns bleaker and even more troubling.

Same-sex marriage no threat

Tampa (Fla.) Tribune

It is now legal for gay couples to marry throughout Florida. It is a difficult issue for many, one that can bring into conflict individual rights, religious beliefs, cultural traditions and rapidly changing social attitudes.

It is useful to remember that only a little over six years ago, more than 60 percent of Floridians voted for the amendment that limited marriage to a man and a woman. Views have dramatically changed since then, and it is doubtful it would receive that kind of support now.

In any event, the courts have found, understandably, that gay citizens are entitled to the same rights as all others and the ban on gay marriage violates the "due process" and "equal protection" provisions in the U.S. Constitution. Those who have religious objections deserve respect, and it would be appalling if activists mounted legal attacks on organizations affiliated with religions that view marriage as being only between a man and a woman. But those troubled by the ruling should remember government allows many other activities proscribed by various religions.

The marriages that began Monday in South Florida should represent no threat to anyone's personal faith and can be seen as a healthy development if you believe state-sanctioned committed relationships are good for society.

Help Lebanon with refugees

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Responding to stresses and pressures from the arrival of 1.5 million Syrian refugees, Lebanon, with a population of 4.5 million, has taken steps to stem the flow.

War in Syria over the past four years has sent a flood of 3 million asylum seekers into Turkey, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon. Turkey is big enough to absorb its share. Jordan is accustomed to refugees, having accepted Palestinians and Iraqis prior to the Syrian onslaught. Iraq has received the fewest among Syria's neighbors, given its own strife.

Lebanon has been hit hardest. Its border with Syria has been open for the most part. It also has a reputation for accepting refugees, notably Palestinians, with occasional catastrophic results for its domestic tranquility. The arrival of Sunni Muslim Palestinians in the 1970s created an imbalance among Lebanon's religious groups that helped set off a bloody civil war between 1975 and 1990.

When Syrians started fleeing into Lebanon in 2011, the Lebanese did not want them settled in camps, which are more easily served by nongovernmental organizations and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The reason is Lebanon feared that phenomenon would lead to more permanent settlement, as had occurred with the Palestinians. An estimated half-million Palestinians are still in Lebanon more than six decades after having fled their homes. It took a resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian dispute.

The Lebanese government has now imposed controls on the entry of Syrians into Lebanon, which has alarmed refugee advocates, international authorities and Syrian refugees themselves. Lebanon's new policy has to be seen as a state a reason for their visit and to apply for a visa of limited duration.

Given the U.S. role in provoking and prolonging the conflict in Syria, there is reason for America to help Lebanon meet the challenge presented by the Syrian refugees. After all, they now constitute 1 in 4 people in that small country.

SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules.
myafn.net

Tennis

Qatar Open

Wednesday
At the Khalifa International Tennis & Squash Complex

Purse: \$1,195 million (WT250)
Surface: Hard-Indoor

Second Round
Ivo Karlovic (7), Croatia, def. Nikoloz Basilashvili, Georgia, 7-6 (3), 6-3.

Dustin Brown, Germany, def. Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, 7-6 (3), 6-4.

Andreas Seppi, Italy, def. Joao Souza, Brazil, 7-5, 6-2.

Novak Djokovic (1), Serbia, def. Sergiy Stakhovsky, Ukraine, 6-4, 6-2.

Ivan Dodig, Croatia, def. Michael Berrer, Germany, 7-6 (1), 6-4.

Tomas Berdych (3), Czech Republic, def. Philipp Kohlschreiber, Austria, 6-1, 6-2.

Richard Gasquet (6), France, def. Simone Bolelli, Italy, 6-3, 6-2.

Shenzhen Open

Wednesday
At Longgang Tennis Centre
Shenzhen, China

Purse: \$500,000 (ITF)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Second Round
Vera Zvonareva, Russia, def. Cagla Buyukakci, Turkey, 6-3, 7-6 (5).

Imela Bacsinszky (8), Switzerland, def. Alona Bondarenko, Ukraine, 6-2, 6-2.

Sinisa Halep (1), Romania, def. Anna Viktorovna, Slovakia, 6-3, 6-2.

Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, def. Natalia Kichenyeva, Slovakia, 6-3, 6-2.

Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, def. Kristina Mladenovic, France, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucy Kersley, Great Britain, def. Tereza Smitkova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

College football

Bowl schedule

Saturday, Dec. 20
New Orleans Bowl
Louisiana-Lafayette 16, New Orleans 3

New Mexico Bowl
Utah State 21, UTSA 6

Las Vegas Bowl
Utah 45, Colorado State 10

Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Idaho 38, Boise 10

Camelia Bowl
Bowling Green 33, South Alabama 28

Monday, Dec. 22
Miami Beach Bowl
Miami 59, UAB 40

Tuesday, Dec. 23
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall 52, Northern Illinois 23

Pointsettia Bowl
Navy 17, San Diego State 16

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
At Nassau

Western Kentucky 49, Central Michigan 48

Hawaii Bowl
At Honolulu

Rice 30, Fresno State 18

Friday, Dec. 26
Hard Rock Bowl
Louisiana Tech 35, Illinois 18

Quick Lane Bowl
At Detroit

Rutgers 40, North Carolina 21

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Bowl
N.C. State 34, UCF 27

Sunday, Dec. 27
Military Bowl
At Annapolis, Md.

Virginia Tech 33, Cincinnati 17

At El Paso, Texas
Arizona State 36, Duke 31

Indiana State Bowl
At Shreveport, La.

South Carolina 24, Miami 21

Pinstripe Bowl
At Bronx, N.Y.

Penn State 48, Boston College 30, at

Holiday Bowl
Southern Cal 45, Nebraska 42

Monday, Dec. 29
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.

Texas A&M 35, West Virginia 37

Russell Athletic Bowl
Clemson 40, Oklahoma 6

Texas Bowl
At Houston

Arkansas 31, Texas 7

Tuesday, Dec. 30
Musica City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.

Notre Dame 21, LSU 28

At Charlotte, N.C.
Georgia 37, Louisville 14

Fosters Farm Bowl
At Santa Clara, Calif.

Stanford 35, Stanford 21

Wednesday, Dec. 31
Peach Bowl
At Atlanta

TCU 42, Mississippi 3

At Balsa Bowl
At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

At Balsa Bowl

College basketball

Wednesday's men's scores

East
Bloomfield 78, Lafayette 71

Indiana 78, Navy 52

Bucknell 79, Lafayette 69

Colgate 74, Holy Cross 69

Duquesne 71, Saint Joseph's 68

Gordon 74, W. New England 61

Lehigh 60, Boston College 54

Manhattan 88, St. Peter's 63

Mass.-Lowell 73, American U. 53, OT

NJIT 69, Md.-Eastern Shore 60

North Western 95, Sacramento State 54

Philadelphia 68, Wilmington (Del.) 62

Post Comm. 67, Caldwell 54

Rhode Island 68, Fordham 65

Richard Stockton 58, NJ City 56

St. Joseph's (L.I.) 77, Rutgers 66

Thiel 65, La Roche 56

UConn 68, Maine 65

Ursinus 76, Gettysburg 75

Vermont 68, Maine 65

SOUTH
Barton 84, North Greenville 80

Belmont 73, SIU-Edwardsville 69

Brevard 81, Tusculum 79

Byron 69, Tenn.-Westway 74

Campbellsville 48, Asbury 60

Duke 73, Wake Forest 65

E. Illinois 64, Belmont 57

Florida 72, South Carolina 68

Hardwood 69, Randolph 57

Hampden-Sydney 59, Randolph 57

Indiana Wesleyan 61, Indiana Wesleyan 61

Lincolnton 72, Erskine 49

Limestone 68, Belmont Abbey 63

Loyola 90, Xavier (NO) 55

Memphis 70, UCF 56

Newberry 64, Catawba 60

North Carolina 67, Anderson (SC) 54

Louisville 58, Clemson 52

Robert Morris 62, Southern Wesleyan 68

Newberry 109, Catawba 98

Randolph-Macon 61, Bridgewater (Va.) 45

Spring Hill 70, Fort Valley 57

Graceland 45, Georgia Southern 69

Temple 64, Tulane 56

Tennessee 61, Mississippi 67

Tennessee 73, Bethany (WV) 65

Union (Ky.) 63, Bluefield 57

W. Va. 71, Davidson 65

Virginia 61, NC State 51

Day the Laker

FAR WEST
San Jose State 55, Cal Poly 61, Hawaii 57

Utah 72, Nevada 52

California 44, UNLV 62

Idaho 74, Holy Cross 69

UC Davis 71, CS Northridge 61

Utah 74, Colorado 60

Wyoming 60, Colorado State 54

Wednesday's women's scores

EAST
Albany (NY) 76, New Hampshire 65

Albany (NY) 76, New Hampshire 65

Bloomfield 60, Felician 50

Bucknell 77, Lafayette 71

Caldwell 51, Post Comm. 45

Colgate 76, Holy Cross 71

George Washington 51, Saint Joseph's 69

Lehigh 63, Army 51

Navy 61, Boston II 55

Philadelphia 71, Wilmington (Del.) 53

Richmond County 70, NJ City 38

Rutgers 81, Michigan 68

Stony Brook 60, Vermont 38

UConn 98, Tulsa 50

Yale 51, Maine 55

SOUTH
Anderson (SC) 82, Lincoln Memorial 78

Barton 84, North Greenville 80

Brevard 81, Tusculum 79

Byron 69, Tenn.-Westway 74

Campbellsville 48, Asbury 60

Duke 73, Wake Forest 65

E. Illinois 64, Belmont 57

Florida 72, South Carolina 68

Hardwood 69, Randolph 57

Hampden-Sydney 59, Randolph 57

Indiana Wesleyan 61, Indiana Wesleyan 61

Lincolnton 72, Erskine 49

Limestone 68, Belmont Abbey 63

Loyola 90, Xavier (NO) 55

Memphis 70, UCF 56

Newberry 64, Catawba 60

North Carolina 67, Anderson (SC) 54

Louisville 58, Clemson 52

Robert Morris 62, Southern Wesleyan 68

Newberry 109, Catawba 98

Randolph-Macon 61, Bridgewater (Va.) 45

Spring Hill 70, Fort Valley 57

Graceland 45, Georgia Southern 69

Temple 64, Tulane 56

Tennessee 61, Mississippi 67

Tennessee 73, Bethany (WV) 65

Desigs

Wednesday's transactions

BASEBALL
American League

BOSTON RED SOX — Acquired C Dan Butler for assignment. Agreed to terms with LHP Craig Breslow on a one-year contract.

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Agreed to terms with INF Nick Punto on a minor league deal.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Givens on a one-year contract.

4058
00

DISCOUNT
TIRE DIRECT
discounttiredirect.com
888-459-4058
602-735-1800

NBA/SPORTS BRIEFS

NBA roundup

Teague helps Hawks extend streak to six

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Jeff Teague and the Atlanta Hawks continue to use their newly discovered mastery of the Western Conference as their path to the top of the East.

Teague scored 25 points and the Hawks beat the Memphis Grizzlies 96-86 on Wednesday night.

The Hawks, who have won six straight overall, have a nine-game winning streak against Western Conference teams. Atlanta (27-8) has won 20 of 22 and has the best record in the Eastern Conference.

"It shows that we're a good team," said Atlanta's Al Horford, who had 12 points.

The Hawks were coming off three straight road wins over Utah, Portland and the Clippers. They continued the run against Memphis (25-10), which began the night third in the Western Conference.

"Honestly, it's just happened that we played all those teams," Horford said. "At the end of the day, for us it's about wins."

Teague has scored 20 or more points in each of Atlanta's six straight wins — its longest streak of 20-point games in its career.

The Hawks grabbed control with a 10-0 run breaking an 84-all tie. Horford, who had 12 points, started the run with a jumper. Teague and Kyle Korver followed with three-pointers and Teague added another basket for a 94-84 lead.

Mike Conley led Memphis with 17 points. Marc Gasol had 16.

Wizards 117, Pacers 102: Klay Thompson scored 40 points, and host Golden State shook off a slow start on the way to its fifth straight win.

Thompson made 14 of 25 shots, including six of 11 from three-point range, and Stephen Curry added 21 points and a season-high-tying 15 assists to help the NBA-leading Warriors (28-5) stretch their home winning streak to 13 games.

Rockets 105, Cavaliers 93: James Harden scored 21 points, Dwight Howard had 17 points and 19 rebounds, and visiting Houston roared past Cleveland in the fourth quarter.

The Cavaliers played their sixth straight game without LeBron James. The four-time NBA MVP said he's on target to return in a week from a strained back and knee.

The Rockets handed the Cavs their seventh loss in nine games.

Kyrie Irving scored a season-high 38 points for the Cavs, who lost their fourth straight at home. J.R. Smith didn't score in 19 minutes in his Cleveland debut.

During the game, the Cavs acquired 7-foot-1 center Timofey Mozgov from Denver for two first-round draft picks.

Hornets 98, Pelicans 94: Kemba Walker scored 31 points, including a tiebreaking three-point play with 14 seconds left, and host Charlotte earned its third consecutive win.

Walker drove the right side of the lane and converted an 11-foot jumper after Jrue Holiday hit him on the arm. Walker then made the foul shot for a 97-94 lead.

The Pelicans had one last chance to tie, but Marvin Williams stole the inbound pass at half court, and was fouled. He went 1-for-2 at the line to seal the victory.

Anthony Davis had 32 points, 12 rebounds and four blocks for New Orleans.

Wizards 101, Knicks 91: At Washington, New York set a record for longest in-season slide in the franchise's 69-year history.

The Wizards handed the Knicks their 13th loss in a row, surpassing the mark set at the end of the 1984-85 season, and their 23rd in 24 games.



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Hawks guard Jeff Teague scores as Grizzlies center Marc Gasol defends in the second half on Wednesday in Atlanta. Atlanta won 96-86.

John Wall had 18 points and eight assists for the Wizards.

Clippers 114, Lakers 89: Blake Griffin scored 27 points, Chris Paul had 24 and the Clippers routed the Lakers for their ninth win in 10 games against the 16-time NBA champions.

Griffin also had nine rebounds and eight assists. Paul added 11 assists.

Kings 104, Thunder 83: Rudy Gay scored 28 points and Darren Collison added 24 to help host Sacramento snap a 12-game losing streak to Oklahoma City.

Suns 113, Timberwolves 111: Gerald Green scored 15 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter, and visiting Phoenix handed Minnesota its 13th straight loss.

Green hit three three-pointers in the fourth, helping the Suns quickly wipe away a seven-point deficit to start the period.

Andrew Wiggins scored 25 points, but missed a three-pointer at the buzzer that would have won the game for the Timberwolves, who haven't won since Dec. 10.

Jazz 97, Bulls 77: Derrick Favors had 20 points and 11 rebounds, and Utah used a strong defensive effort to beat host Chicago.

The Jazz held the Bulls to a season-low point total on just 28-for-84 shooting (33.3 percent). The Bulls were averaging 103.1 points.

Chicago point guard Derrick Rose had just seven points on 3-for-15 shooting. The 2011 NBA MVP is shooting 25.5 percent (28-for-110) in his past six games.

Pistons 108, Mavericks 95: At Dallas, D.J. Augustin scored 17 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter, and Detroit earned its seventh consecutive victory, the NBA's longest current winning streak.

Greg Monroe had 27 points and 18 rebounds for Detroit.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 19 points for the Mavericks, who had won six in a row.

Nuggets 93, Magic 90: Ty Lawson scored 23 points in host Denver's third consecutive win, and Arron Afflalo had 17 against his former team.

The Nuggets also got a key contribution from Jaron Nurkic, who had eight points in his first career start in place of Timofey Mozgov.

Celtics 89, Nets 81: At New York, Avery Bradley scored 21 points, and Boston snapped a three-game losing streak.

Tyler Zeller added 18 points for the Celtics, who won for just the second time in nine games.

Bucks 97, 76ers 77: At Philadelphia, Brandon Knight and Khris Middleton scored 18 points apiece, leading Milwaukee to the victory.

The Bucks (19-18) shot 53.9 percent from the field in their fifth consecutive road win.

Briefly

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The Browns' revolving door has spun again. They're looking for an offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach.

Coordinator Kyle Shanahan and coach Dowell Loggains will not be returning to the team, a person familiar with the decisions told The Associated Press on Thursday.

Shanahan and Loggains spent one year on Mike Pettine's staff in Cleveland but will not be back for the 2015 season, said the person who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the Browns have not commented on the moves.

It's not immediately clear if the 35-year-old Shanahan asked to be released from his contract or was fired.

Fox Sports first reported the departures.

Shanahan, who previously worked in Washington, is expected to interview for Buffalo's head coaching vacancy on Thursday.

His father, Mike Shanahan, also interviewed with the Bills and has drawn interest from several NFL teams.

Loggains spent the previous eight seasons with the Tennessee Titans. His claim to fame with the Browns was telling an Arkansas radio station that Johnny Manziel was him a text message during the Draft that the quarterback wanted to "wreck this league together." Loggains said he forwarded the text to Pettine and owner Jimmy Haslam. The Browns moved up from No. 26 to No. 22 and selected Manziel.

Redskins finalizing deal to make McCloughan GM

WASHINGTON — The Washington Redskins on Wednesday were working on the final details of a deal to hire Scot McCloughan as general manager, a move that marks a major shift in front-office philosophy under owner Dan Snyder after 16 years of mostly losing seasons.

McCloughan and the Redskins were close to an agreement after two days of negotiations.

McCloughan, a former executive with the San Francisco 49ers and Seattle Seahawks, would give the Redskins something akin to a traditional structure for the first time under Snyder — a highly respected talent evaluator independent of the head coach to lead the team through free agency and the draft.

McCloughan's arrival means Bruce Allen would be stripped of the GM title, although Allen would remain team president.

Unable to find the right front-office formula, the Redskins have suffered through a wilderness of poor draft picks and unwise free agency signings for more than a decade and have finished in last

place in the NFC East in six of the past seven seasons.

McCloughan is credited with helping craft championship-level rosters with the 49ers (2005-09) and Seahawks (2010-13), including the two seasons he served as San Francisco's GM. But he left both teams due to personal reasons and spent last season as a private consultant to NFL teams.

Cowboys defensive star Pugh dead at 70

IRVING, Texas — Jethro Pugh played alongside Hall of Famers Bob Lilly and Randy White in a long career as a defensive tackle for the Dallas Cowboys, which may explain why he was among the most unsung Super Bowl winners in the franchise's storied history.

Pugh, who played in the first four Super Bowls for Dallas and was part of a "Doomsday Defense" that won two of them, died Wednesday. He was 70.

The team said Pugh died of natural causes four days before the Cowboys were to play their first postseason game in Green Bay since the famous Ice Bowl in 1967. Pugh was blocked on Bart Starr's quarterback sneak for the game-winning touchdown in Dallas' 21-17 loss in the Ice Bowl that sent the Packers to the second Super Bowl.

Tide sign ex-Georgia OL Taylor, despite arrest

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Defensive lineman Jonathan Taylor enrolled at Alabama, six months after Georgia dismissed him following an arrest for assaulting his girlfriend.

Alabama announced Wednesday that eight signees had started classes and were eligible to participate in spring practice, including Taylor.

Taylor was dismissed from Georgia in July 2014 following his arrest on aggravated assault and family violence charges. He played last season at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Mississippi.

A University of Georgia police department report stated that Taylor punched and choked his girlfriend.

Djokovic bounced out of Qatar in quarters

DOHA, Qatar — Top-ranked Novak Djokovic was upset by Ivo Karlovic of Croatia 6-7 (2), 7-6 (6), 6-4 while playing through a sandstorm in the Qatar Open quarter-finals on Thursday.

Karlovic took advantage of a second break point in the seventh game of the third set with a perfect forehand pass.

He never offered Djokovic a break-point opportunity in the 2-hour, 15-minute match.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Cook helps lift young Duke over Wake

By JOEY MCCREARY
The Associated Press

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Leave it to No. 2 Duke's lone scholarship senior to lead his freshman-dominated team out of its only second-half deficit of the season.

Quinn Cook scored nine of his 12 points after the Blue Devils fell behind late, helping them beat Wake Forest 73-65 on Wednesday night.

Justise Winslow scored a season-high 20 points and fellow freshman Jahliel Okafor added 12 points and 11 rebounds in their first Atlantic Coast Conference road game.

But Cook came through in the final 5 minutes for the Blue Devils (14-0, 2-0), who kept pace with No. 1 Kentucky and No. 3 Virginia as the last unbeaten teams in Division I.

"This team's tough," Cook said. "Together. We don't want to lose."

Duke shot 44 percent and pulled away by scoring on eight straight possessions down the stretch to win its closest game all year. The Blue Devils had won each of their first 13 by double figures.

Rasheed Sulaimon added 10 points for the Blue Devils, who dropped four of their previous five ACC road openers and lost in their last visit to Winston-Salem in March.

"There's a sense of urgency with every ACC game that you can't manufacture," coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "You have to experience it."

Devin Thomas scored 24 points and Codi Miller-McIntyre added 13 for the Demon Deacons (8-8, 0-3).

They shot nearly 56 percent in the second

half and gave a top-five opponent fits for the second straight game before fading.

"We lost. You compete to win. That's the bottom line," first-year coach Danny Manning said. "We've got to find ways to get the desired result that we want, and that's a win."

Miller-McIntyre gave Wake Forest its first lead since the opening minutes when his three-point play with 6:04 remaining made it 56-55. He added a free throw on the next possession to push the lead to two.

Cook countered with a three-point play two possessions later to make it 58-57 and put Duke back on top to stay.

Matt Jones converted a pretty layup, then two possessions later swished what Krzyzewski called "the biggest bucket" — a three-pointer that stretched the lead to 64-59 with 2½ minutes to play.

Cook added a jumper with 51.9 seconds left before going 4-for-4 from the free throw line in the final 41 seconds — the first two of those pushing Duke's lead to double figures for the first time, 71-61.

Star power: Okafor's third double-double didn't come easy. With Thomas leading the parade of Wake Forest's double teams, Okafor's first shot didn't come until he was fouled with 5:47 left in the first half. He finished 4-for-6 — his second-fewest shot attempts of the season.

Stat sheet: Wake Forest managed just four offensive rebounds all night — all by Thomas — and had only four second-chance points. ... The Demon Deacons' three three-pointers were their fewest since they made one in a loss at Arkansas on Nov. 19.



CHUCK BURTON/AP

Wake Forest's Mitchell Wilbekin, left, and Duke's Quinn Cook, right, chase a loose ball during the first half Wednesday in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Roundup

Kaminsky paces Badgers against pesky Purdue

The Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — Fourth-ranked Wisconsin was outshot and outrebounded, but used an overwhelming advantage from the free throw line to grind out a 62-55 victory over Purdue, the Badgers' toughest nemesis since coach Bo Ryan took over in Madison.

Frank Kaminsky scored 21 points Wednesday night and the Badgers (15-1, 3-0 Big Ten) pulled away from a 45-41 tie with a 9-2 run to open a 54-47 lead on Josh Gasser's free throw with 3:19 left.

Wisconsin, which has won eight straight since an 80-70 loss at home to Duke in early December, maintained a two-possession lead the rest of the way to prevent the Boilermakers from becoming the first Big Ten opponent to win four games at the Kohl Center.

"It was good to grind out a win like this, low-scoring," Gasser said. "We had to fight the adversity, stay mentally tough. That's what we needed."

The Badgers, coming off their first consecutive games of scoring 80 or more points in Big Ten play since 1992, offset a 43.6 percent shooting night by making 25 of 31 free throws, including 15 in the final 9:11.

"It's obvious that we got more free throws, but in order to get those free throws and get to the free throw line, we had to do cer-



ANDY MANIS/AP

Wisconsin's Frank Kaminsky had 21 points in the Badgers 62-55 win over Purdue on Wednesday.

tain things," said Ryan, whose teams are 99-14 at home in Big Ten play. "But that was part of our game plan, too. Plus, a lot of those came when they had to foul at the end. I would say six or eight of them, at least."

Purdue, which was called for 24 fouls to 12 for Wisconsin, went to the free throw line seven times, making three. The Boilermakers averaged 28 free throws in their first two conference games.

"The game was won and lost on the free throw line," Purdue coach Matt Painter said. "We had

to be able to get to the free throw line and we didn't. And they were able to get there."

No. 3 Virginia 61, N.C. State 51: Justin Anderson scored 16 points and Malcolm Brogdon added 14 as host Virginia weathered a sloppy effort and beat North Carolina State for its 19th straight home victory.

Mike Tobey added 11 points for Virginia (14-0, 2-0 Atlantic Coast Conference).

No. 5 Louisville 58, Clemson 52: Chris Jones had his second straight 20-point second half to help fifth-ranked Louisville rally past visiting Clemson.

Louisville trailed 22-18 at half-time after shooting 22 percent, but Jones and fellow guard Terry Rozier helped the Cardinals (14-1, 2-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) snap out of their funk with a 17-0 run to open the second half.

No. 9 Utah 74, Colorado 49: Brandon Taylor scored 14 points and Delon Wright added 13 points, six assists and four steals to help host Utah.

Illinois 64, No. 11 Maryland 57: Illinois wondered who would score with Rayvonte Rice injured. Malcolm Hill provided the answer with a career-high 28 points on that Maryland.

Hill turned it on in the second half with 18 points. The sophomore fueled a 20-3 run that the host Illini (11-5, 1-2 Big Ten) used

to take over the game.

No. 12 Kansas 56, No. 21 Baylor 55: Wayne Selden made three consecutive baskets when Kansas needed them most, and the visiting Jayhawks held off Baylor to win their 24th consecutive conference opener.

Selden was only 1-for-6 shooting before scoring seven points in a row, including a tiebreaking three-pointer with 2:17 left that put the Jayhawks (12-2, 1-0 Big 12) ahead to stay.

No. 15 Wichita State 63, Bradley 43: Darius Carter scored 19 points in host Wichita State's victory over Bradley.

Xavier 69, No. 19 Seton Hall 58: Dee Davis scored 14 points and Trevon Bluiett led a late run as Xavier pulled away from Seton Hall for the Musketeers' second straight home win over a ranked team.

No. 20 VCU 71, Davidson 65: Treveon Graham had 15 points and 10 rebounds for host Virginia Commonwealth, which held Davidson's long-range shooters in check.

DePaul 70, Creighton 60: Forrest Robinson made his first five three-pointers, all in the first six minutes of the game, and scored a career-high 20 points as visiting DePaul took sole possession of first place in the Big East.

Creighton (9-7, 0-3) has lost its first three conference games for

the first time since 1993-94.

Air Force 78, San Jose State 56: Marek Olesinski scored 16 points as host Air Force coasted in its first Mountain West Conference win of the season.

Air Force (8-6, 1-2) closed out the opening half with 12 straight points to lead 37-26 at the break.

Northern Iowa 55, Southern Illinois 39: Seth Tuttle tied a career-high with 24 points, on 9-for-12 shooting, and Nate Buss scored a season-high 15 to lead host Northern Iowa.

Boston University 70, Navy 64: Cedric Hankerson hit 5 of 8 three-pointers and finished with 21 points to lead visiting Boston University to its fourth straight win.

Worth Smith, the reigning conference player of the week, scored 25 points for Navy (6-9, 2-1).

Lehigh 71, Army 60: Tim Kempton had 19 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lead visiting Lehigh.

Army led 50-48 at the 10:32 mark before Lehigh answered with an 11-1 surge. Army (10-4, 1-2) shot just 21-for-61 for 34.4 percent from the field and finished with its lowest point total of the season.

Syracuse 46, Georgia Tech 45: Rakeem Christmas scored 18 points and hit the go-ahead free throw with 12 seconds remaining to help visiting Syracuse.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL/NHL

Ducks, Buckeyes begin prep week

By ANNE M. PETERSON
The Associated Press

EUGENE, Ore. — Oregon is treating this week like any other this season. And while that's more comfortable in a way, it also feels a little odd.

After all, the Ducks are preparing to face Ohio State in the national championship game Monday night at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas. The two teams are the first to experience a season stretched out for one more game by college football's new playoff system.

Both teams have already had their bowl games and all the hoopla that goes with that, so this is more of a business trip, said Oregon senior safety Erick Dargan. A really important business trip.

"It's just like a regular week. I think that actually plays more to our advantage than having a lot of time," Dargan said. "We're back in our groove."

The Ducks (13-1) routed Florida State 59-20 in the Rose Bowl, while the Buckeyes (13-1) beat Alabama 42-35 in the Sugar Bowl on New Year's Day, paving the way for the championship 11 days later.

Upon arrival for the game in Pasadena, second-seeded Oregon was involved in all the customary Rose Bowl activities, including the obligatory visit to Disneyland for the photo op with Mickey Mouse.

The Ducks had essentially already done their work: There had been 26 days between the team's regular-season finale and the Granddaddy of Them All. That gave them plenty of time to scheme for the Seminoles and quarterback Jameis Winston.

The fourth-seeded Buckeyes

were similarly prepared upon arrival in New Orleans, giving them time for events like a dinner that featured entertainment from a couple of alligators and a python.

Adding the national championship as a 15th game presents some unique challenges for coaches and their players — like guarding against fatigue or injury.

"I was talking to someone earlier and they said it's been like 25 weeks. I guess it is just part of the grind. Part of our job is taking care of your body and making sure you're ready to go when you're number is called," said Ohio State senior receiver Evan Spencer.

Buckeyes coach Urban Meyer led a former team, Florida, to national championships in 2006 and 2008. There wasn't a lot of comparison he could offer.

"Practices are a little different. Those ones, we had 37 days to prepare. I remember in '06 it was 37 or 47, some ridiculous number; '06 was the first one removed from the traditional bowl date," he said.

Oregon was keeping everything the same as during the regular season. Same practice times, same meeting schedule. The Ducks, like the Buckeyes, leave Friday for the Dallas area.

Coach Mark Helfrich was one of those who called it all odd. But in a good way.

"It's weird in some sense: It's obviously not just another game, but it's sort of just another week of fall. We're in school, they're not, so that's a little bit of nuance to it. But we've had a plan for this and built a plan for this last summer and our guys have done a phenomenal job of executing our long-term plan," he said.



CHRIS PIETSCH, THE REGISTER-GUARD/AP

Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota, left, signs an autograph for Lynette Bassaw of Springfield, Ore., after practice on Wednesday in Eugene, Ore. The Ducks will face Ohio State in the national championship game on Monday in Arlington, Texas.



NATHAN DENETTE, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Toronto interim head coach Peter Horachek, back center, talks to Maple Leafs forward Phil Kessel (81) during Wednesday's game against Washington in Toronto. Horachek replaced Randy Carlyle, who was fired on Tuesday, 40 games into the season.

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	42	26	12	4	56	138	110
Montreal	40	26	12	2	54	110	93
Detroit	41	22	10	9	53	116	103
Boston	41	20	15	6	46	107	110
Toronto	41	21	17	3	45	132	128
Florida	37	17	11	9	43	87	97
Ottawa	39	16	15	8	40	103	107
Buffalo	41	14	24	3	31	78	140

Metropolitan Division						
Pittsburgh	40	24	10	6	54	120
N.Y. Islanders	40	26	13	1	53	123
Washington	39	21	11	7	49	118
N.Y. Rangers	37	22	11	4	48	117
Columbus	38	18	17	3	39	100
Philadelphia	40	15	18	7	37	108
New Jersey	42	15	20	7	37	94
Carolina	40	13	24	4	28	79

Western Conference

Central Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	39	26	9	4	56	119	90
Chicago	40	26	12	2	54	124	87
St. Louis	40	24	13	3	51	124	99
Winnipeg	40	20	13	7	47	103	96
Dallas	39	18	15	6	42	121	128
Minnesota	38	18	15	5	41	107	110
Colorado	40	16	18	6	40	103	117

Colorado	40	16	16	8	40	103	117
Pacific Division							
Anaheim	42	26	10	6	58	116	114
Vancouver	38	23	12	3	49	112	100
San Jose	41	22	14	5	49	113	108
Los Angeles	40	19	12	9	47	112	103
Calgary	41	21	17	3	45	117	108
Arizona	39	15	20	4	34	92	130

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Tuesday's games					
Philadelphia 2, Ottawa 1, 50					
New Jersey 4, Buffalo 1					
Tampa Bay 4, Montreal 2					
Nashville 3, Carolina 2					
San Jose 4, Minnesota 3, OT					
Colorado 2, Chicago 0					
Columbus 4, Dallas 2					
St. Louis 6, Arizona 0					
Vancouver 5, N.Y. Islanders 2					

Wednesday's games					
Washington 6, Toronto 2					
Boston 3, Pittsburgh 2, OT					
Detroit 3, Calgary 1					
N.Y. Rangers 4, Anaheim 1					

Thursday's games					
New Jersey at Boston					
Washington at Philadelphia					
Buffalo at Carolina					
San Jose at St. Louis					
Dallas at Nashville					
Chicago at Minnesota					
Atlanta at Colorado					
Winnipeg at Arizona					
Florida at Vancouver					
N.Y. Rangers at Los Angeles					

Friday's games					
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey					
Columbus at Toronto					
Buffalo at Tampa Bay					
Florida at Calgary					
Chicago at Edmonton					

Saturday's games					
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey					
Columbus at Toronto					
Buffalo at Tampa Bay					
Florida at Calgary					
Chicago at Edmonton					

Sunday's games					
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey					
Columbus at Toronto					
Buffalo at Tampa Bay					
Florida at Calgary					
Chicago at Edmonton					

Monday's games					
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey					
Columbus at Toronto					
Buffalo at Tampa Bay					
Florida at Calgary					
Chicago at Edmonton					

Tuesday's games					
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey					
Columbus at Toronto					
Buffalo at Tampa Bay					
Florida at Calgary					
Chicago at Edmonton					

Wednesday's games					
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey					
Columbus at Toronto					
Buffalo at Tampa Bay					
Florida at Calgary					
Chicago at Edmonton					

Thursday's games					
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey					
Columbus at Toronto					
Buffalo at Tampa Bay					
Florida at Calgary					
Chicago at Edmonton					

Goalies — N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 19-8 (25 shots-24 saves), Anaheim, Bryzgalov 0-2-0 (29-26).

A—17, 174, T—23.

Red Wings 3, Flames 2

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Detroit	1	1	1	3	3
Calgary	1	0	1	2	2

First Period—1, Calgary, Raymond 6 (Jones, Backlund), 2:27, 2, Detroit, Sheahan 8 (Helm), 7:58.

Second Period—3, Detroit, Zetterberg 10 (Abdelkader, Nyquist), 17:26.

Third Period—2, Detroit, Abdelkader 11 (Nyquist, Zetterberg), 2:03 (Gp.), 5, Calgary, Backlund 2 (Byron, Brodie), 5:13 (sh).

Shots on Goal—Detroit 7-8-7—22, Calgary 11-8-11—30.

Power-play opportunities—Detroit 1 of 2; Calgary 0 of 4.

Goalies—Detroit, Mrazek 5-2-1 (30 shots-28 saves), Calgary, Ramo (13-12), Hiller (13-12-2) (0:11; second, 9-7).

A—15,154, T—2:31.

Bruins 3, Penguins 2 (OT)

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Boston	1	1	0	3	3
Pittsburgh	1	0	1	2	2

Goalies—Boston, Bergeron 2 (Malin, Despres), 3:27, 2, Boston, Chara 3 (R Smith, Krejci), 17:57.

Second Period—3, Boston, Bergeron 9 (Pavle, Lucic), 15:37.

Third Period—4, Pittsburgh, Malkin 18 (Ehrhoff), 14.

Over time—5, Boston, Bergeron 10 (Lucic, Krug), 2:45.

Shots on Goal—Boston 8-6-5-2-24, Pittsburgh 12-14-11-2-39.

Power-play opportunities—Boston 0 of 2; Pittsburgh 0 of 4.

Goalies—Boston, Rack 16-10-6 (39 shots-37 saves), Pittsburgh, Fleury 20-7-4 (24-21).

A—16,650, T—2:38.

Capitals 6, Maple Leafs 2

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Washington	0	2	0	2	2
Toronto	0	2	0	2	2

First Period—1, Washington, Johnson 11 (Kuznetsov, Brouwer), 5:10.

Second Period—2, Toronto, Winnik 2 (Forsman, Kadri), 12:40, 3, Washington, Fehr 12 (Beagle, Niskanen), 6:20 (sh), 4, Washington, Laich 5 (Fehr), 8:58, 5, Toronto, Smith 1 (Komarov, Polak), 16:08, 6, Washington, Johansson 12 (Carlson, Brouwer), 16:50.

Third Period—7, Washington, Fehr 13 (Carlson, Green), 11:20, 8, Washington, Ovechkin 20, 19:33 (sh).

Shots on Goal—Washington 4-14-8-26, Toronto 7-12-14-33.

Power-play opportunities—Washington 0 of 2; Toronto 0 of 2.

Goalies—Washington, Holtby 19-8-6 (33 shots-31 saves), Toronto, Bernier 15-10-3 (25-20).

A—19,047, (18,819), T—2:36.

Scoring leaders

Through Jan. 7	GP	G	A	PTS
Jakub Voracek, PHI	40	15	48	48
Tyler Seguin, DAL	39	26	21	47
Evgeni Malkin, PIT	40	18	31	47
Ryan Getzlaf, ANH	41	17	28	45
Claude Giroux, PHI	39	12	32	45
Sidney Crosby, PIT	37	11	32	43
Patrick Kane, CHI	40	15	31	42
Vladimir Tarasenko, STL	40	22	19	41
Max Pacioretty, MTW	41	15	22	41
Nicklas Backstrom, TB	37	25	14	39
Nicklas Backstrom, TB	37	25	14	39
Nicklas Backstrom, TB	37	25	14	39

Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 0 of 1; Anaheim 1 of 3.

NHL roundup

Rangers roll over Anaheim

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The New York Rangers see their three-game California road trip as a chance to learn how they measure up against the NHL's best teams.

The defending Eastern Conference champions got off to a scoring start on the West Coast.

Rick Nash scored his 25th goal, Henrik Lundqvist made 24 saves and the Rangers beat the Anaheim Ducks 4-1 on Wednesday night for their 11th victory in 12 games.

Derrick Brassard, Mats Zuccarello and Dominic Moore also scored for the Rangers, who produced a dominant effort against the overall NHL leaders.

"It's huge. We talked about it for the last couple of days," Nash said. "We had three days off, so we talked about challenging ourselves and using this game as a measuring stick of where we're at. So it's a huge win for us. We're playing our style and we're not hurting ourselves."

New York prepared for its Thursday night Stanley Cup finals rematch with the Los Angeles Kings by controlling its matchup with the Ducks, who had won four of the clubs' last five meetings.

The Rangers have been the NHL's best defensive team over the past month, and Lundqvist combined with his defense to limit Ryan Getzlaf and Corey Perry to one power-play assist apiece.

"I think it's good for our confidence to know that we can play a really strong game against the best teams in the league," Lundqvist said.

Bruins 3, Penguins 2 (OT): Patrice Bergeron scored twice, including a deflection past Pittsburgh's Marc-Andre Fleury 2:43 into overtime to lift visiting Boston to a victory over Pittsburgh.

Bergeron got just enough of Milan Lucic's blast from the point to put it past Fleury as the Bruins ended a three-game skid.

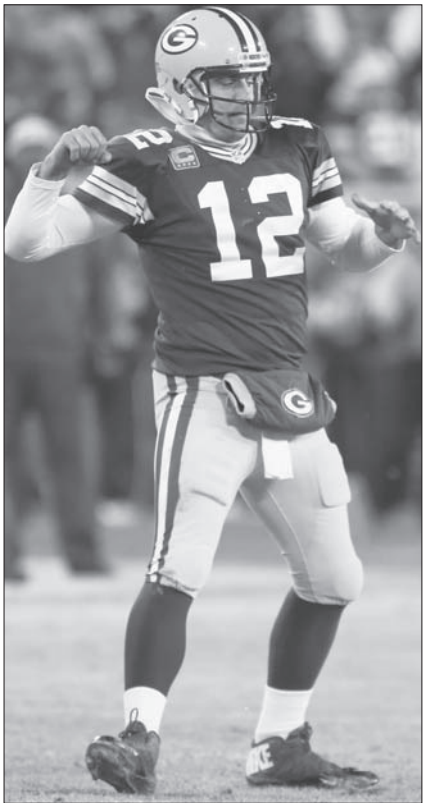
Capitals 6, Maple Leafs 2: Marcus Johansson and Eric Fehr scored two goals apiece, and visiting Washington spoiled the debut of Toronto interim coach Peter Horachek.

Brooks Laich and Alex Ovechkin, with an empty-net goal, also scored for Washington, which is 12-6-3 on the road. It was Ovechkin's 20th goal of the season and 50th career point against Toronto.

Red Wings 3, Flames 2: Justin Abdelkader and Henrik Zetterberg both had a goal and an assist to lead visiting Detroit over Calgary.

Riley Sheahan also scored for Detroit (22-10-9), which has won five of seven. The Red Wings have won two of their first three games on a six-game trip.

NFL PLAYOFFS



MATT LUTHE/AP

Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers didn't practice on Wednesday because of a lingering calf injury, but left no question that he would be playing Sunday against the Cowboys at Lambeau Field.

Packers confident Rodgers prepared without practice

QB making progress from injured calf; team ready to pick up slack

By GENARO C. ARMAS
The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Aaron Rodgers didn't practice Wednesday because of a lingering left calf injury. The quarterback left no doubt about his plans for Sunday when the Green Bay Packers host the Dallas Cowboys.

"No, I'm going Sunday," Rodgers said. "Just a matter of how."

Missing practice was part of the plan for Rodgers, who has dealt with the injury for about three weeks. While the Packers practiced inside the frigid Hutson Center training facility, Rodgers stayed exclusively in the training room for treatment.

He hopes that occasional acupuncture will also help, along with the valuable rest that the Packers received for earning a bye for the opening round of the playoffs. It's possible Rodgers could also wear a wrap to further protect his lower left leg.

There is progress, though "it's never enough for Aaron," coach Mike McCarthy said. "But I think the training staff feels good about it and we feel confident in the direction we're going."

Rodgers at less than 100 percent health is still better than most quarterbacks. Two weeks ago against Detroit, Rodgers had to be carted to the locker room after aggravating the calf injury.

He limped back on to the field in the third quarter, throwing for one score and tumbling in from 1 yard for another to help lead the Packers to victory and a fourth straight NFC North crown.



Dallas Cowboys
at Green Bay Packers

AFN-Sports
7:00 p.m. Sunday CET
3:00 a.m. Monday JKT

Rodgers is such a stickler for preparation that no one in the locker room doubts the team's leader can play well without practice.

"We would definitely love to be able to have that preparation, but health is the most important thing for him at this time. You've got to trust the system," receiver Randall Cobb said.

The injury, though, has limited Rodgers' mobility the last two weeks, which in turn has affected his trademark ability to extend plays. That mobility has bailed out the Packers in potentially troublesome situations time and again in Rodgers' seven years as starter.

The rest of the Packers have promised they will help pick up any slack.

In the passing game, that means an offensive line that has been playing well might need to hold blocks longer to protect Rodgers in what would have otherwise been a scrambling situation.

Receivers who must be prepared in order to earn Rodgers' trust and targets must be even sharper on the field.

Just making sure you're creating more separation and just doing everything you can to make sure you're running your route as well as possible, make it less [stressful for] him," rookie wide-out Davante Adams said.

Rodgers didn't roll out much the last two games after getting hurt. The Packers lined him up in shotgun formations much of the time, even on running plays. Rodgers still displayed his typically accurate arm in making quick-strike tosses on slants and other short routes.

In the win against Tampa Bay, Rodgers used "no-look" passes to try to take advantage when the defense was in zone coverage.

"Look at the No. 3 receiver and throw it to No. 2. Did that a few times against Tampa, and the reaction from the defender is always fun," Rodgers said. "It's just a matter of manipulating defenders with your eye control."

And even with the sore calf, don't forget that Rodgers still called for a quarterback sneak against Detroit that led to a 1-yard score.

"Well you never know when he's going to extend. He may be limited with mobility right now, but you look at last week, or the week before in Detroit, he still moved around," Cobb said. "We stress week in and week out, regardless what's going on back at quarterback (to be able) to create separation at the line of scrimmage and get open on your routes."

Home: Teams get edge from fans, weather, mystique; some opponents don't buy it

FROM BACK PAGE

Seattle's lone home loss was a 30-23 hiccup against Dallas during the champs' early-season stumble. The other defeat was a giveaway. New England's 19-7 loss to Buffalo in the season finale with the No. 1 seed already secured by the Patriots.

"Unmerving" is how Richard Sherman describes the sound in Seattle, which can get so loud that the Seahawks' defense has led to creative ways to make checks and calls.

Panthers tight end Greg Olsen played at Seattle with the Bears a few years ago and left with his ears ringing. He said he expects an even louder stadium Saturday night: "Playoff game, coming off a Super Bowl, I can only imagine."

Denver quit being such an intimidating place to play after John Elway retired with two rings. It's a big deal again since Manning's arrival in 2012.

"Our fans have been great ... I think they cause problems for other teams," Manning said, echoing sentiments in Massachusetts, Washington and Wisconsin. "Players just feed off that energy when you're playing at home. I think it makes a big difference."

Throw in the no-huddle and the lung-searing altitude and you can see why the Broncos are 24-3 at home with Manning, including 17-1 over the last two seasons.

"Playing up-tempo and then the altitude out here can really give a defense fits," said C.J. Anderson, who knows it's working when defensive linemen interlock their knuckles behind their head, heaving between snaps.

Indy defensive end Cory Redding argued the altitude effect is "all in your head," adding: "it's a bunch of uh, stuff."

But Colts coach Chuck Pagano knows better. He grew up in Boulder, Colo., and played at Wyoming, which is about 2,000 feet higher than Denver. So he knows how the thin air can affect teams. Still, he decided against flying into Colorado a day early.

"Yeah, we mulled it over; but we figured sticking with the routine and having a normal week was better," he said.

One of Denver's three home losses under Manning came in the playoffs two years ago when Joe Flacco heaved a tying 70-yard rainbow to Jacoby Jones in the final minute of regulation. Flacco's seven road playoff wins are the most in NFL history

and includes two triumphs at Gillette Stadium, plus a 23-20 loss in which Billy Cundiff missed a short field goal at the end.

Flacco doesn't get all the fuss over the home field.

"It's tough to tell people why you're not intimidated," Flacco said. "I think it's kind of funny that people would be intimidated at any point in any game against anybody. It's just not in our nature. We've played in a lot of big, football games and this is no different."

So the Ravens will, as usual, swagger into their opponent's stadium Saturday.

"I look around all the time at the crowd when you first come out of the tunnel," Ravens receiver Torrey Smith said. "I like the boos. I like to see all of what's going on, see what kind of tradition they have ... You would love to be home. But playing away just the challenge of trying to quiet down the crowd is something that you love as a competitor."

The Cowboys take an 8-0 road record into Lambeau Field in their first playoff game at Green Bay since losing the Ice Bowl in 1967. Never has an 8-0 road team played an 8-0 host in the postseason.

"I would say it's like a frozen mystique, if

you could say that, just because it's hard to play in the cold," Packers DB Jarrett Bush said. "It's a different discomfort out there on the field, rather than being in Miami or Tampa, somewhere it's really hot. The cold is totally different. Totally different ballgame."

Of more concern for the Cowboys than the cold is Aaron Rodgers, who has thrown 418 times and 36 consecutive TD passes at home without an interception, both NFL records. He hasn't been picked off at Lambeau Field since Dec. 2, 2012.

But the Cowboys might be better off away from AT&T Stadium, anyway. They were 4-4 there and needed a frenetic fourth-quarter rally to beat Detroit last week.

On the road, they look like an entirely different team.

"If we can take that same mentality to Green Bay," safety Barry Church said, "despite all the cold, despite all that, if we can just take that mentality, us against the world, then I feel like we'll have a good chance."

AP Sports Writers Michael Marot, Tim Booth, Genaro C. Armas, Schuyler Dixon, Graham Ullman, David Ginsburg, Steve Reid and Pat Howard contributed.

NFL PLAYOFFS

Brady not dwelling on past games vs. Ravens

By HOWARD ULMAN
The Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The last time Tom Brady faced the Baltimore Ravens in the playoffs, he threw interceptions on the New England Patriots' final two drives.

In their three playoff matchups, he lost twice.

All those games were at Gillette Stadium, where the postseason rivals met Saturday for the fourth time in six years.

Brady says none of that history will matter when he takes his first snap in the divisional playoff on the path to what he hopes will be his fourth straight AFC title game.

"I don't think that's really useful," the quarterback said Tuesday. "We can't change what has happened. You just have to move forward and you have to think about the things that we've done really well this year."

That would be:

Going 12-4 and earning the top seed in the AFC. Scoring the fourth most points in the NFL. Having a strong defense with outstanding cornerbacks Darrelle Revis and Brandon Browner. Leadership from a quarterback with the fifth best passer rating. And production from a tight end, Rob Gronkowski, with the most receptions for anyone at his position and excellent blocking ability.

"We've put ourselves in a good position," Brady said after returning to practice following a first-round bye. "We've just got to take advantage of it."

They didn't do that in two of their three playoff games against the Ravens.

Their postseason rivalry began with Baltimore's 33-14 wild-card



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

New England quarterback Tom Brady says past playoffs won't matter when the Patriots meet the Baltimore Ravens in a divisional playoff Sunday in Foxborough, Mass.

win in the 2009 season. Two years later, New England won 23-20 to advance to the Super Bowl, where it lost to the New York Giants.

In Brady's second consecutive AFC championship matchup with the Ravens on Jan. 20, 2013, the Patriots lost 28-13 after leading

'We can't change what has happened. You just have to move forward and you have to think about the things that we've done really well this year.'

Tom Brady
New England quarterback

13-7 at halftime.

Those three games were hardly Brady's best: a total of three touchdown passes, seven interceptions and a 56.1 completion percentage.

The Patriots did rout the Ravens in Baltimore last season 41-7, but Brady didn't have to do much. They led 17-0 early in the second quarter. LeGarrette Blount ran for two touchdowns and the defense produced four turnovers and four sacks.

Those three playoff games might make for some pretty ugly viewing, but watching film of them might provide useful tips.

"It's the same (defensive) coordinator so a lot of the scheme stuff you see how he (Dean Pees) tried to defend us back then," Brady said. "We're a different team now, too, so I think the more information the better."

"They're a different team." Fiery linebacker Terrell Suggs is still around for the Ravens (11-6) and had an interception in last Saturday's 30-17 wild-card win over Pittsburgh.

And he's no fan of Brady's, having criticized him for complaining to officials.

But four days before their most important game of the season, both downplayed any differences.

"He's phenomenal," Brady said. "We've never really talked a



Baltimore Ravens
at New England Patriots
AFN-Sports
10:30 p.m. Saturday CET
6:30 a.m. Sunday JKT

lot on the field. We've never really talked much off the field either. So, it's the way it goes, but he's a great player."

Suggs had a simple explanation for how he views Brady.

"He's a quarterback. I'm a defender. He's got a job to do and so do I, so naturally there are going to be some disagreements there," he said Tuesday. "Nobody's really worried about what happened in the past. The only thing we're worrying about is this game."

The Patriots offensive line should be back intact after left guard Dan Connolly missed the last two games with a knee injury.

"It's a lot of pressure on us to do a good job," Connolly said. "It's our job to make sure Tom stays upright."

Road playoff games not a problem for Baltimore

By DAVID GINSBURG
The Associated Press

OWINGS MILLS, Md. — The roar that filled the stadium in the first quarter had long since disappeared, and so had the majority of Pittsburgh Steelers fans.

As the Baltimore Ravens walked off Heinz Field following their 30-17 victory Saturday night, a few hundred purple-clad folks lined up near the visitors' tunnel.

Smiling broadly, Ravens coach John Harbaugh slapped high-fives with those who made the trip from Baltimore.

It is a ritual that has become quite commonplace over the past seven years.

No team over the past 40 years has traveled better in the postseason than the Ravens, whose 10 road wins are the most by any team since the 1970 merger.

No. 10 came at the expense of the hated Steelers, making Baltimore the only team to win on the road last weekend.

That provided the Ravens (11-6) with the opportunity to pin another defeat on the Patriots (12-4) in New England on Saturday.

"It's a business trip, certainly," Harbaugh said Monday. "The bottom line is,

it's going to be emotional. There's a lot at stake. They're the No. 1 seed and we're the No. 6 seed. We understand what that means. That's all there. But in the end, it's a game."

The Ravens have reached the postseason in six of Harbaugh's seven years as their head coach. They are 7-4 on the road over that span, leaving Harbaugh tied with Tom Coughlin and Tom Landry for the most road wins since the merger.

Harbaugh says the team goes through the same routine, at home or away, and insists there's no big secret to his success.

In his view, quite simply, the better team won.

"I really don't have an explanation for that other than the fact that we played well," Harbaugh said. "You've got to play well on the road, obviously, to have a chance to win."

That's what happened in Pittsburgh. The Ravens forced three turnovers, had five sacks and punted only twice in yet another win on the road.

"It's great after you do it, but it doesn't mean much for the next game," Harbaugh said.

The Patriots are 15-4 at home during the postseason. Half of those defeats have come against the Ravens, whose previous visit to New England served as a precursor to a trip to the Super Bowl.

Baltimore eliminated the Patriots in 2010, lost by a field goal in the 2012 AFC title game and rolled to a 28-13 victory in 2013.

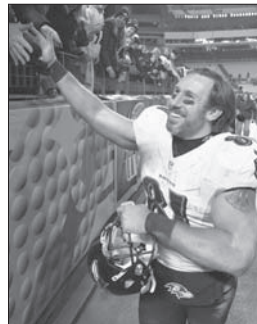
And now, two of the AFC elite will meet again.

"They're tough. They're physically and mentally tough," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said of the Ravens. "They can play in tough situations and they're talented. They keep coming at you."

Even on the road, as the Steelers learned on Saturday night.

"It was very special and meaningful," Harbaugh said. "To be in the locker room, and then the plane ride home with the fellows, you never forget that stuff. That's really why we do what we do... for moments like that."

Asked where that victory ranked on his list of favorites, Harbaugh replied, "It's the best one because it's the last one. The next one will be even better."



GENE PUSKAS/AP

Ravens tight end Owen Daniels celebrates with fans after defeating the Pittsburgh Steelers last Saturday. Baltimore now heads to Foxborough, Mass., for a divisional playoff against the Patriots.

NFL PLAYOFFS

Bringing the intensity

Kuechly, Wagner among best LBs

By STEVE REED
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. Carolina teammates describe Luke Kuechly as one of the nicest guys you'll meet, an aw-shucks, All-American kid who's polite and still spends part of his offseason living with his parents in Ohio.

Seattle's Bobby Wagner is the charming, approachable kid-at-heart, regularly seen walking around with a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles backpack draped around his shoulders.

Off the field, nice guys. Harmless.

On the field, it's a whole different story when it comes to the All-Pro middle linebackers.

Panthers safety Roman Harper, who previously played for New Orleans, remembers watching a game last year and



**Carolina Panthers
at Seattle Seahawks**
AFN-Sports
2 a.m. Sunday CET
10 a.m. Sunday JKT



wondering who the crazy man wearing the No. 59 jersey for Carolina was.

"He's yelling, he's talking trash — and then you meet him and he doesn't even remember any of that," Harper said. "He's just the nicest guy, he talks about his mom all the time and all this other stuff and it's just so funny. It really is like the Superman-Clark Kent thing."

Wagner is the intense, driven leader of the Seattle defense, which has finished first in the league in the NFL in each of the past two seasons.

Kuechly was the catalyst for the Panthers holding the Arizona Cardinals to 78 yards in last week's wild-card game, an NFL postseason record for fewest yards in a game.

"They're two of the better young linebackers in the league, for sure," Panthers coach Ron Rivera said. "They're exciting to watch."

For all the inherent hype surrounding quarterbacks Russell Wilson and Cam Newton entering Saturday night's NFC divisional playoff game, this game could be determined by the teams' two defensive play callers.

Kuechly, the NFL's Defensive Player of the Year last season, demonstrated last week just how



Jeff Chu/AP

Seattle middle linebacker Bobby Wagner, right, brings down San Francisco running back Frank Gore during the first quarter on Nov. 27 in Santa Clara, Calif. Wagner's abilities are so respected he was named All-Pro this season despite missing five games.

valuable he is to the Panthers. He had 10 tackles, a key fourth-quarter interception and tipped another Ryan Lindley pass that resulted in a turnover in Carolina's 27-16 wild-card win over the Cardinals.

Wagner finished with 104

tackles in 11 games and doesn't have quite the same big plays on his résumé this season as Kuechly, but he's just as valuable to Seattle's defense. That's why he was selected as an All-Pro despite missing five games due to the toe injury.

Carolina middle linebacker Luke Kuechly, left, has developed into one of the most feared linebackers in the NFL.

BOB LEVERONE/AP



SPORTS



Prep schools
Oregon, Ohio State getting
ready for title game » **Page 28**



THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE



AP

Fans watch the the second half of an NFL divisional playoff game between the Green Bay Packers and Seattle Seahawks on Jan. 12, 2008, as snow falls in Green Bay, Wis.

Hosts this weekend have had big edge on home fields

By ARNIE STAPLETON
The Associated Press

Along with great quarterbacks who all own Super Bowl rings, the four NFL teams hosting playoff games this weekend have a little something else on their side: an extraordinary home-field edge.

Seattle has the racket of Century Link, Green Bay the mystique of icy Lambeau. Denver's mile-high altitude and NAS-CAR offense benefit the Broncos. And the Patriots appreciate the biting winds and bitter cold of foreboding Foxborough, where that hoodie sure comes in handy.

The four host teams are a combined 30-2 at home this season; each is at least a touchdown favorite in the divisional round.

In the last decade, only two other seasons, 2005 and 2011, featured collective records that good among the four hosts who sat out wild-card weekend, according to STATS.

Interestingly, in neither of those post-seasons did any of the four win it all. Sixth-seeded Pittsburgh won in '05 and the Giants won as a fourth seed to close out 2011.

This year's foursome includes the Broncos and Packers with perfect home records, but not the top seed, so the road to the Super Bowl might not even go through Denver or Green Bay.

SEE HOME ON PAGE 29

Inside:

■ All-Pro linebackers Kuechly, Wagner bring the intensity, **Page 31**

■ Brady brushing off his past struggles vs. Baltimore, **Page 30**

■ Ravens have been road warriors in the postseason, **Page 30**

■ Despite calf injury, Rodgers expected to start for Pack, **Page 29**

No. 2 Duke rallies to win ACC road opener

College basketball, Page 27

Teague leads Hawks to 6th straight victory

NBA, Page 26